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INCOME AND FUNDS (1888).

Fire Premiums	£615,000
Life Premiums	£203,000
Interest	£149,000
Accumulated Funds	£3,581,000

THE
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No. 7790.—VOL. L. *FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 7, 1890.* *Price One Penny.*

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

DRURY LANE. (The National Theatre.)
EVERY EVENING, at 7.15, and MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and SATURDAY at 1.30, AUGUSTUS HARRIS'S Pantomime, JACK AND THE BEANSTALK, produced on a scale of splendour surpassing in magnificence the displays offered to the public by Mr. AUGUSTUS HARRIS in previous years, and performed by a Company of Comedians each of whom is an acknowledged attraction in himself—Messrs. Nicholls, Leno, Lauri, Lauri jun., Griffiths Brothers, Conquest, jun., Leopold Brothers, Payne (Clown), and Campbell; Misses Vernon, Faudelle, Ellicott, Anela, Clay, and Duggan. Box-office open from 10 A.M. all day. LAST TWO WEEKS.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. BERNSTON TREE.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, A MAN'S SHADOW, by ROBERT BUCHANAN. Mr. TREE as LAROQUE and LUVERSAN. Messrs. Fernandez, Kemble, C. Collette, E. M. Robson, Allan, Hargreaves, Tempest, Gurney, Harwood; Miss Julia Nelson, Miss Minnie Terry, Miss Norreys, and Mrs. Tree. At 7.45, GOOD FOR NOTHING; Miss Norreys. Doors open 7.30. Box-office open 10 till 5. Fir Circle (unreserved), 2s. 6d. MATINEE of A MAN'S SHADOW TO-MORROW (Saturday) and following SATURDAY at 2.30.

LYCEUM THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. HENRY IRVING.)
THE DEAD HEART—A Story of the French Revolution. TO-NIGHT at 8 (light o'clock (Shh! time). Mr. Henry Irving, Mr. Bancroft, Mr. Stirling, Mr. Righton; Miss Phillips and Miss Ellen Terry. Box office (Mr. J. Hurst) open daily 10 to 5. Seats can also be booked by letter or telegram. Carriages, 10.45.—LYCEUM.

CRITERION THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM.
THIS EVENING, at 8.30, OUR BOYS. Mr. David James, Mr. Leonard Boyne, Mr. Arthur Elwood, Mr. E. W. Gardiner; Mesdames Olga Brandon, E. Brunton, F. Frances, E. Vining. Preceded by, at 7.50, SWEETHEART, GOOD-BYE. Messrs. Scott Buist, H. Saker, G. Stanton, L. Chapuy; Mesdames E. Terris, E. Brunton, E. Vining. Doors open at 7.30. N.B.—MATINEE of OUR BOYS TO-MORROW (Saturday), at 2.30. Doors open at 2 o'clock

GAIETY THEATRE.
TO-NIGHT, at 8 punctually, RUY BLAS AND THE BLASE ROUE. Miss Ellen Farren, Miss Marion Hood, Miss Sylvia Grey, Miss Linda Verner, Miss Blanche Massey, and Miss Letty Lind; Mr. Fred. Leslie, Mr. Fred. Storey. Doors open at 7.30.

TERRY'S THEATRE.
(Proprietor and Lessee, Mr. EDWARD TERRY.)
(Manageress, Miss GRAHAME.)
TO-NIGHT, at 9, NEW LAMPS FOR OLD. Messrs. W. S. Penley, Bernard Gould, W. Lestocq, Arthur Playfair, Lionel Rignold, Houston, and Gertrude Kingston. At 8.15 THE PARTING OF THE WAYS. Mesdames M. A. Giffard, Helen Leyton, Rose Dearing, Oscar Asche, and J. Nelson. Doors open at 8. Carriages at 11. Box Office open 10 till 5. MATINEE SATURDAY NEXT, at 2. Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. BECKWELL.

TOOLE'S THEATRE.
TO-NIGHT, at 9, THE BUNCALOW, by FREDERICK HORNER. 166th Performance. The greatest success of modern times. Received with roars of laughter and thunders of applause. At 8.15, SALDA. Doors open 7.45. Messrs. G. Glenney, Yorke Stephens, Compton Coutts, Bassett Roe, Matthew Beelle, R. Stockton, and Fred Kerr; Misses Sophie Larkin, Vane Featherston, Marie Illington, Mary Jocelyn, and Cicely Richards. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY at 2.15. Doors open at 2.

ADELPHI THEATRE.
(A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)
THIS EVENING, at 8.0, LONDON DAY BY DAY. Immense success. 151st Time. Mr. George Alexander, Messrs. Marius, J. D. Beveridge, E. L. Shine, Lionel Rignold, W. L. Abingdon, Rhes, Hudson, Mr. Bedford, James Fawn, W. Northcote, J. Northcote, &c.; Mesdames Alma Murray, Mary Rorke, Kate James, Charlotte Elliott, and Clara Jecks. Doors open at 7.0. THE MARRIED BACHELOR, at 7.15.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. THOMAS THORNE.)
THIS EVENING, at 7.45, MEADOW SWEET, at 8.30, CLARISSA. Mr. Thomas Thorne, Messrs. T. B. Thalberg, Ian Munro, Arnold Foss, J. S. Blythe, Hanbury, F. Grove, F. Gillmore, and Fred Thorne; Miss Winifred Emery, Mesdames Mary Collette, C. Owen, L. Bryer, E. Weymes, Lily Hanbury, and Miss Banister. MATINEE of CLARISSA TO-MORROW (Saturday), at 2.30.

THE GLOBE THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. R. BENSON.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8, HAMLET. Messrs. Cartwright, Benson, Black, Ross, Stuart, Grenville, Howard, Gurney, Hallett, Rowan, Shine, Weir, Forde, Brydone, Major, Meadows, Burnell, Phillips; Mesdames Ferrar, Selwyn, Benson. MATINEE of HAMLET NEXT THURSDAY, at 2.15. N.B.—A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM EVERY EVENING at 8 (Thursdays and Fridays excepted) and WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY MATINEES at 2.30.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.
MASTER AND MAN.
TO-NIGHT, at 7.45, Henry Pettitt and GEORGE R. SIMS' powerful play, MASTER AND MAN, in which the following popular artists will appear:—Messrs. Henry Neville, J. H. Barnes, Robert Pateman, Brandon Thomas, Sidney Howard, Charles Rock, Bassett Roe, Fred Shepherd, George Daniell, R. Mayer, Dan Cowell, Lawson; Mrs. Edith Brayne, Mrs. Frank Hunsley, and Miss Bella Pateman. Doors open 7.15. Commence 7.45. Box-office (Mr. A. Frye) open daily from ten till five. Seats at all the libraries.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mrs. Langtry.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8, AS YOU LIKE IT. Mrs. Langtry; Mesdames M'Neil, Lea, Lamb, Armbruster, &c.; Messrs. Cautley, Bourchier, Sugden, Everill, Fulton, Brodie, Forbes, Gay, Lewis, Cannings, Lawford, Grover, Lingham, Armcliffe, Eybrow, Yorke, &c. Doors open 7.30, carriages at 11.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. HORACE SEDGER.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, MARJORIE. 50th Performance TO-MORROW (Saturday). Miss Pattie Bringhen, Miss Annie Arnold and Miss Camille d'Arville; Messrs. C. Hayden Coffin, Joseph Tapley, Henry Ashley, Frederick Wood, Albert James, T. A. Shale, A. T. Hendon, and Harry Monkhouse. Preceded at 7.30 by ALL ABROAD. Morning Performance EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30. Telephone No. 5,703.

GARRICK THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. JOHN HARE.)
THIS EVENING, at 8, A PAIR OF SPECTACLES. Mr. John Hare, Mr. C. Groves, Mr. R. Cathcart, Mr. S. Brough, Mr. C. Dodsworth, Mr. F. E. Knight, Mr. A. Hertlieg, Mr. Byron, Miss Blanche Horlock, Miss F. Hunter, and Miss Kate Rorke. Preceded, at ten minutes past 8, by DREAM FACES. Mr. J. Forbes Robertson, Mr. S. Brough, Mr. S. Pringle; Miss Blanche Horlock and Miss Carlotta Addison (specially engaged) will appear. Doors open 7.40. Box-office open from 10 to 5. Acting Manager, Mr. C. G. COMPTON.

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.
Messrs. E. S. WILLARD and JOHN LART, Lessees and Managers. Proprietor, Mr. JOHN LANCASTER.
THIS EVENING, at 7.45, THE MIDDLEMAN.
LAST WEEKS.
Mr. Willard, Messrs. Mackintosh, E. W. Gardiner, H. Cane, H. V. Esmond, Ivan Watson, Cecil Crofton, Royston Keith; Mesdames Mande Millett, Annie Hughes, E. H. Brooke, Annie Hill, St. Ange, Eva Moore, &c. Box-office now open daily, 10 to 5. Doors open 7.40. Carriages 11. Acting Manager, Mr. W. H. GRIFFITHS.—SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.

LYRIC THEATRE.
(Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. HENRY J. LESLIE.)
EVERY EVENING, at 8.20, THE RED HUSSAR. Mesdames Marie Tempest, Birdie Irving, Maud Hollins, Mrs. Sidney, and Florence Dysart; Messrs. Davies, Price, Marsh, Albert Christian, J. Le Hay, Frank M. Wood, and Arthur Williams. Preceded at 7.30, by WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30.

COMEDY THEATRE.
TO-NIGHT and EVERY EVENING, at 9 P.M., the celebrated Comedy PINK DOMINOS, adapted by JAMES ALBERY, with powerful cast, including Messrs. Herbert Standing, Alfred Maltby, A. Rousincall, &c., and C. H. Hawtrey; Mesdames Goldney, Robertson, Cowell, Alma Stanley, and Rose Saker; preceded, at 8, by ONE SUMMER NIGHT, by F. W. Broughton. Box-office open daily from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M. Telephone, 5,784. 100th Performance TO-MORROW (Saturday), March 8.

COURT THEATRE.
(Proprietors, Mrs. JOHN WOOD and Mr. ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH.)
TO-NIGHT at 9, 211th performance of AUNT JACK. Mr. Arthur Cecil, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. Lewis Ashton, Mr. F. Thorne, Mr. Fred Cape, Mr. A. Ayrcowrth, Mr. W. Phillips, Mr. F. Farren, Mr. Powell, Mr. W. Quinton; Miss Rosina Filippi, Miss Florence Wood, and Mrs. John Wood. At 8.15, TO PARIS AND BACK. Mr. M. Bolcyn, Mr. F. Farren, Miss F. Harrington and Mrs. Phelps. N.B.—SPECIAL MATINEE of AUNT JACK TO-MORROW (Saturday), March 8. Doors open at 2, commence at 2.30.

AVENUE THEATRE.
(Under the Management of Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, PLOTTERS. At 9, DR. BILL.
Messrs. Frederick Terry, Nutcombe Gould, Benjamin Webster, George Capel, Henry Grattan, and Albert Chevalier; Mesdames Robins, Carlotta Leclercq, Marie Linden, Mary Kingsley, Fanny Brunelle, Emmeline Cramer, Edith Kenward, and Fanny Coleman. Doors open 7.45. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY, and SECOND SPECIAL MATINEE WEDNESDAY NEXT, at 2.30. Doors open 2 o'clock. Box-office open daily from 10 till 5. Business Manager, Mr. K. D'ALBERTSON.

ALHAMBRA VARIETY THEATRE.
"ASMODEUS," at 9 o'clock, and "OUR ARMY AND NAVY," at 10.50. Signorina, Bochner; Mdlles. Sarnico, Marie, Thurgate, and Vergé, and Signor De Vincenti. Varieties by BRULÉ and RIVIÈRE, the Misses Ethel Haydon, Annie Allan, Marvelle's Bonbonnets and the Dog "Rags," the Albert and Edmunds' Troupe, Arthur Tinsley, Marie Lloyd, George English, the Eddy's Troupe, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, and JAMES FAWN. Open 7.45 until 11.30.

EMPIRE THEATRE.
Commence at 8. Two Grand Ballets, THE PARIS EXHIBITION. At 10.30, A DREAM OF WEALTH, by M. KATTI LANNER. Music by M. LEOPOLD WENZEL. Mdlles. Pitteloud and Bertini, de Sora, Spinelli, Nannetti, and Signorina Malvina Cavallini. Grand Variety Entertainment. At 10.30, the Army Recruits of THE SIEGE OF LUCKNOW, specially written for her by H. SAVILLE CLARKE, Esq. No free list.

ROYAL, Holborn.
GRAND HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.—G. H. Macdermott, the popular actor and vocalist; Lydia Yeamans, queen of song; the Mazmans, in a novel musical absurdity; Vesttino, the wonderful Zaz; the Brantfords, American variety artists; Ottaway and Pepper; Abe Daniels, musical clown, Ella Fielding; Arthur Tinsley; Petrol, the marvellous mimic; May and Laverne, statuesque dancers; Sam Torr; Denne Brand, operatic vocalist; Maura, equilibrist; Prof. Wingfield's Dogs; Evans and Richfield; Nelly Chapman; Ottaway and Pepper; Abe Daniels, Edmund Tempe, the Elope; James Fawn, comic Chairman; the Kellerton Troupe; Sada Monosuhi; first appearance in the variety halls of Miss Kate Chard, the famous opera bouffe prima donna.
EVENINGS at 7.30; SATURDAY MATINEES, 2.30. Prices of admission from 6d. to £2 2s.

LYING AND RELYING.

WHAT a very bad turn certain exalted legal luminaries have done to the Government in not long ago retiring so that the Attorney-General might have been kicked upstairs before now! Sir RICHARD WEBSTER did his party a sufficiently bad turn at the very outset, in deluding them into a belief in PIGOTT'S forgeries, and thus making them inclined to adopt Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S Special Commission. He did them a second equally bad turn in accepting the *Times*' brief before the Commission. His conduct of the case itself may well be left where Sir CHARLES RUSSELL exhibited it last night. But Sir RICHARD WEBSTER'S resources for the damaging of his friends are inexhaustible. When the Report appeared, the obvious interest of Ministers was to lie low, and to dissociate themselves as far as possible from the exploded calumnies of the *Times*. Sir RICHARD WEBSTER made that impossible by his Oxford indiscretion. This indiscretion, by the way, he lays, with a recklessness which we fully expose elsewhere, at the door of the *Pall Mall Gazette*. But, as if that were not enough, he did his friends one more evil turn last night by the delivery of a speech which is admirably calculated to cap and crown the bad effect of all his other indiscretions. It brings out into the strongest possible relief, as we shall proceed to show, the two facts which it was most to the interest of the Government to gloss over. First, that Sir RICHARD WEBSTER was really motived in the matter by political considerations. Secondly, that in his conduct of the case he brought to political issues all the petty arts and subterfuges of *nisi prius*. Sir RICHARD WEBSTER went in solid for the *Times*. The Government went in solid for Sir RICHARD WEBSTER. We cannot resist feeling some natural pity for a Government which is afflicted by a friend whose presence leads to such inconvenient conclusions. Still, as they have stuck to their hair-shirt, they cannot complain if it is rubbed in.

We will take first the second of the two points specified above. Sir RICHARD WEBSTER went in solid for the *Times*. He conducted a great political issue on the principles of *nisi prius*. We need not greatly labour this point, for it was, indeed, the whole pith and substance of his reply to Sir CHARLES RUSSELL last night. One would have thought that in a political trial of this kind—an inquest in which the future of the Irish nation and the fate of English parties were at stake—Sir RICHARD WEBSTER would have taken exceptional steps to make sure of his ground. Over and over again he loudly asseverated that he would prove up to the hilt the whole case against Mr. PARNELL. Not only, as he alleged last night in Court, but also, as he has forgotten, from his place in Parliament. Speaking in the House of Commons on June 24, 1888, he said :—

> That whole case which I opened [in *O'Donnell v. Walter*] I was prepared to prove, and if I am counsel for the *Times* again shall be prepared to prove.

Sir CHARLES RUSSELL suggested that Sir RICHARD had invented some of the wonderful fictions in that opening. Not so, replies the Attorney-General, I relied on my instructions. Like the late Mr. MACDONALD, Sir RICHARD made no inquiries—a state of things which continued till the Commission was in full flood. In opening before the Judges, he produced many of the fictions a second time. He was quite happy : he relied—and lied ?—on instructions. On the question of the apology Sir RICHARD WEBSTER'S defence was the same. In a political case, where the credit of his colleagues in the House was involved, one might have imagined that the instincts of a gentleman would triumph over the etiquette of a barrister. But no : "it would be ridiculous for me," he says, "and absurd for anybody to ask me to give an apology." He had slandered his fellow-members ; but he had slandered them on instructions. He took the instructions with the retainer, swallowed them wholesale, and went in solid with the *Times*.

And why ? Why, in the first place, did he identify the Government with the *Times* by accepting a brief at all ? We do not think so badly of Sir RICHARD WEBSTER as to suppose that, unlike Sir EDWARD CLARKE, he cannot refuse the chance of shekels when they come his way. No, he acted in his conduct of the case as an advocate, but he went into the case, it is clear, as a politician. He thought, and the Government thought, that there was good political business in the case. That is why he wanted to go in, and why they did not prevent him. If he had not in the House of Commons pledged himself to prove the case (a case into which he had not inquired), if the Government had had any inkling of the collapse in store, does any sane man believe that they would not have put pressure upon him to clear out after *O'Donnell v. Walter*? But Sir RICHARD, it is clear, thought the PIGOTT letters to be genuine. He thought so because he was blinded by political prejudice. Now that the letters have collapsed, he turns round—again from political motives—and eats his words, as the following parallel passages will show :—

HOUSE OF COMMONS, July 24, 1888.
The most important issue in the case was whether the letter was signed by the hon. member for Cork.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, March 6, 1890.
That particular members have been exonerated from that particular charge scarcely touches the great issue between us.

"The great issue between us." What is that but a political issue? And what need have we of further evidence? Sir RICHARD WEBSTER himself has stated our case. The Government through its Attorney-General entered upon a political issue. Acting in the narrowest spirit of an advocate, he was content to rely upon instructions from the *Times*. That is why his Government is beginning already to feel the damnation which the love of fair play innate in the British public, reserves for political sharp practice.

BIBLES, ANCIENT AND MODERN.

A LOOK ROUND THE B.F.B.S. LIBRARY.

TO-DAY is the eighty-fifth birthday of the British and Foreign Bible Society, and, according to custom, a cake weighing as many pounds as the society is years old, will be distributed among the hundreds of juvenile friends and helpers who will assemble at Bible House, in Queen Victoria-street, to celebrate the event. A representative who called yesterday afternoon at the head-quarters of the B.F.B.S. with a view of obtaining some information respecting the society in general, and the famous Fry collection of British Bibles, writes :—

Mr. Clark, who is in charge of the library during the absence in China of Dr. Wright, the librarian, has only just finished placing the collection on the shelves of the library, where they cover nearly a whole side of the high spacious room. There are over 1,200 volumes, varying in size from tiny volumes scarcely three inches high to heavy tomes nearly two feet high and bulky in proportion.

"Is it true that the Fry library is the finest collection of Bibles in the world ?"—"As far as we can tell, it is strictly true. The late Mr. Francis Fry, F.S.A., of Bristol, and the head of the well-known firm of cocoa manufacturers, was an enthusiastic collector, and his idea was to obtain a collection illustrating the history of the Bible in this country. This he did by obtaining a copy of every Bible that has been printed in the kingdom. When Mr. Fry died his son offered the collection to us, and the books were valued at £7,589. Mr. Fry then agreed to take £6,000 for them, and at the sametime contributed £1,500 towards their purchase. The remaining £4,500 was collected by private effort.

For the purpose of reference the collection of English, Irish, Welsh, Gaelic, and Anglo-Saxon Bibles is no doubt invaluable, but, quite apart from their interest to theologians and ecclesiastics, the volumes, many of which bear on their backs and title-pages the honoured names of Wycliffe, Tyndale, Coverdale, Matthews, and others, are a pleasure to behold from the point of view of the book-lover. Could but some of those curious volumes speak, which have been sent as presents by friends or agents of the society all over the world, what marvellous tales of adventure would they not be able to tell! In a case on one of the window-sills is a Malagasi Bible which was buried in the island during the persecutions from 1835-1853. There are some pencil marks on the margin, denoting probably the favourite passages of the native to whom the volume belonged, but there is no sign of the long interment of the Book of books. In another case a French Bible is shown which was found on the field of Prestonpans immediately after the battle in 1746. Pomare II., his late Majesty of Tahiti, has written in curious Tahitian characters the Gospel of St. Luke upon the pages of one of the smaller volumes, and some Armenian artist, innocent of perspective, but gifted with a fertile imagination and a decided love for magenta, has illustrated another Bible with a series of marvellous pictures, among which a saint with six toes and a very substantial-looking sun take an honourable place.

Another of the deep window recesses is almost filled with a Dutch Bible dated 1756. The Hollander of the eighteenth century being a man of large ideas the volume is bound in half-inch oak, and adorned with brass clasps of a solidity not often met with in these latter days. A Melancthon Bible in dainty monastic manuscript, beautifully and minutely

FOOTBALL NOTES.

GAMES TO-MORROW.

To-morrow's Association programme is a rich one. At Kennington Oval the final tie for the London Association Challenge Cup is to be played, the opposing teams being the Royal Arsenal and Old Westminsters. These clubs have not previously met each other, and as both have excellent records this season, it is difficult to prognosticate a winner, although I fancy the Woolwich men, as they will be in better condition than their opponents. The best game in the South, however, will be seen at Richmond, where the Corinthians and Preston North End will play their rubber game for the season. These teams met on the same ground a few months ago, when the Corinthians won by five goals to none. The return match took place at Preston, when North End secured the victory by two goals to one. The winner of the deciding game to-morrow may fairly claim to be the champion club of England.

THE ASSOCIATION CUP.

In the provinces the most interesting matches are the semi-final ties for the Association Cup, in which the Wolverhampton Wanderers play Blackburn Rovers at Derby and Sheffield Wednesday meets Bolton Wanderers at Birmingham. The Wolverhampton and Sheffield teams are composed entirely of Englishmen, but the Lancashire clubs are dependent upon Scotland and Wales for some of their material.

FOOTBALL AND RAILWAYS.

The merits of football are beginning to be appreciated by the railway companies. Year by year the great matches are visited by increasing numbers of spectators, who seem to think nothing of distance. Special trains running to Edinburgh from Leeds and Bradford were well patronized on Saturday, and two or three parties actually travelled from London. It has been estimated that if two such clubs as Bradford and Huddersfield were to compete in the final tie of the Yorkshire Challenge Cup, as many as 10,000 persons would travel from one town to the other to see the game. Londoners are not at present so enthusiastic as Yorkshiremen, but still the South Eastern might do worse than try the experiment of facilitating access to the Blackheath ground.

THE YORKSHIRE CHALLENGE CUP.

The competition for the Yorkshire Challenge Cup has begun and will continue for several Saturdays to come. I am afraid that there is only too much truth in the allegation that the matches are made the occasion for betting—a practice whose growth must inevitably first discredit and finally destroy the game. Thanks to the action of the Yorkshire Committee, much has been done to stamp out the secret professionalism, which is also promoted by the keen rivalry between the competing clubs ; but betting is an evil much more difficult to deal with, and much more deadly.

PRESTON AND THE LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP.

Snow prevented several matches from being played last Saturday, and spoiled many others, including one important Association contest—London *v.* Birmingham. The game lasted only for an hour, and was at the best but a farcical imitation of football. The result—three goals to one in favour of Birmingham—proved nothing about the respective merits of the teams. In the provinces the weather was better. Three League matches were decided, the most important of which was that between Preston North End and Notts County, which the former won by four goals to three. The Prestonians, although dismissed from the Cup competition, still appear likely to retain the League championship. Their most formidable rival is Everton, which is three points behind North End, but has one more match to play.

ENGLAND *v.* WALES AND IRELAND.

On the 15th inst. England plays two matches under Association rules—one at Wrexham, against Wales, and the other at Belfast against Ireland. The teams for these games have already been chosen. The match with Wales is looked upon as a trial for the more important contest, but as the Welshmen are far inferior to the Scottish players, the test is not a very good one. W. R. Moon, P. M. and A. M. Walters, T. Lindley, and W. J. Bassett, who played against Scotland last year, are selected to oppose Wales with A. Chesters, A. Shelton, and H. B. Daft, who played in the minor international matches in 1889 ; and J. Holt and G. H. Cotterill, who have not previously obtained their caps.

PROFESSIONALISM.

Hearty acknowledgments of the zeal of the Yorkshire Committee were made the other day by the Rugby Union officials at the dinner which followed the Champion County match. But it is well known that the committee's success in detecting professionalism has been chiefly due to the untiring energy of one member—the Rev. F. Marshall, of Huddersfield, who has acted the part of public prosecutor in all the principal investigations. I hear that a movement is on foot to get up some acknowledgment of this gentleman's valuable services, and that he will probably be asked to represent Yorkshire on the Union Committee, where he would be able to render more valuable services to football. Mr. Marshall will no doubt receive the almost unanimous support of the Yorkshire clubs if he will consent to undertake their representation.

M. P.

illuminated, is another valuable volume; a Pentateuch in Hebrew, with marvellous margins in crimson and gold, has been specially written for a scholarly Shah. And, again, a very ancient book is the Codex Zacynthans under the Shah. And, again, a very ancient book is the Codex Zacynthans under the clear type of which in cursive Greek, dating from the thirteenth century, the pages are covered with dull characters in uncial Greek, the lines running from the top to the bottom of the page. The latter are said to be seven hundred years older than the type partly covering them.

It is impossible to attempt to mention more than a very few of the large number of highly interesting Bibles, but there are two other specimens which deserve special mention. One is in a case close to a table on which a scroll lies which was found in a cave near Damascus, and on which the Pentateuch is written in bold Hebrew characters. It is the Bible of a little Welsh girl, Mary Jones, who at the beginning of this century gave the first impulse to the establishment of the B.F.B.S. by walking many miles to a clergyman asking him to present her with a Bible. The clergyman, struck by the child's request, made inquiries, found how very rare Bibles were among the people, and laid the foundation stone of what is now one of the largest and most beneficent religious institutions.

The other curiosity is a small pictorial Bible, the original of which was found in the Tyrol, and which was emblazoned in 1312. Each chapter is represented by a small picture about an inch square, and here again the fertile imagination has helped the artist to produce a volume which for drastic representation of facts and for its delightful humour is quite unique. Jacob blessing his twelve sons, for instance, is depicted by a large hand stretched out over the figure XII.; and a prancing animal, whose peculiarities of stature may be well excused by the fact that in 1312 natural history was not yet an exact science, represents the going into Egypt of Joseph's brethren. Wherever the eye turns in the room there is something attractive in the way of books, and as the library is open to the public, everybody is free to pay a visit to what is certainly one of the most interesting places in the City.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE QUEEN AND CANON LIDDON.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—The Queen's antipathy to Canon Liddon arises, I believe, more from a personal than a political reason, if the following story, which holds ground in the best-informed circles, is really true. Some years ago the eloquent Canon preached by request at St. George's Chapel. In the middle of his sermon, sinking the courtier in the priest, and in unconscious imitation of the old French Court chaplains, Canon Liddon suddenly turned towards the Royal pew—I had almost written box—and breaking a startled silence he thus personally, and very solemnly, addressed her Majesty, "And for you, Madam," &c., &c. The Queen was furious; as soon as the service was over she sent for Gerald Wellesley, the then Dean, and said to him, with a face full of passion—and can any thundercloud on earth compete with her Majesty's face at such a moment?—and in a voice trembling with rage, "Mr. Dean, NEVER let that man preach here again." And "*that* man" never has, and that man never will.—I am, &c.,

B.

THE BALFOURS AND THE MAIDEN.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—Apropos of "Mr. Balfour's Maiden," I do not know if attention has been previously drawn to a case which is recorded in the first volume of "The Newgate Calendar" (date 1700), in which a young Scotch gentleman of good birth, named "A. Balfour," was executed by an instrument called "the maiden," which appears to have been a precursor of the guillotine. The offence of Mr. A. Balfour (the elder) consisted in murdering his sweetheart near Edinburgh. He belonged to the family of Lord Balfour of Burleigh. I am not sure that "the maiden" will not likewise put an end (politically) to the career of Mr. A. Balfour (the younger).—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

F.

THE BLACKBALLING AT THE ATHENÆUM.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—I beg your permission to endorse the letter in your issue of yesterday as to the black-balling of the author of "Parnellism and Crime" at the Athenæum Club, which is the more necessary as I find that many of that gentleman's supporters contend that this was done on political grounds. As one of the members who voted against his admission, I should like to say that so far as I am concerned politics had nothing to do with my vote. I am myself no politician, and I object strongly to either politics or religion being made a ground of objection to the membership of such a club as the Athenæum. If, for example, a strong partisan like Colonel Saunderson had been a candidate, I honestly believe that no one would have put in a black ball against him. It would have been recognized that "the gallant member," although an intensely convinced politician and a hard-hitter, fought with perfect fairness; and such a course deserves nothing but respect. My objection to the author of "Parnellism and Crime," and I am satisfied that it was that of all who black-balled him, was not that he was a politician of views opposed to my own, but that he fought unfairly, that he hit, if I may continue my pugilistic simile, below the belt. I trust that it may be long before one who does this will be deemed worthy of admission to a club of English gentlemen.—I am, &c.,

ANOTHER MEMBER.

Athenæum Club, March 6.

MR. RUSKIN AND MR. SEVERN.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—I was glad to see in your issue of March 4 that you give contradiction to some of the amazing statements quoted [by the *Star*] from the *New York Herald* about Mr. Ruskin.

The article in question was sent to me some weeks ago, but seeing so many utterly absurd statements in it, I hardly thought it worth while to go through all with a view to correction, feeling sure that no London paper with any knowledge on the subject would quote from the article. Mr. Ruskin has about thirty missals, chiefly of the thirteenth century. On leaving Sandgate I accompanied the Professor to Abbeville, where we stayed some weeks, taking short trips to Eu, Dieppe, Tréport, &c., &c. He did not go to Amiens. As regards Miss Greenaway and the daubing over one of her sketches, it is without foundation. I was here at the time and saw the only drawing of hers he did touch—it was a figure subject, with brown autumnal woody background, and the Professor with a few clever touches of blue suggested some blue sky showing through the trees—and a great improvement it was. Miss Greenaway herself, in a letter to us the other day, hopes all these errors about what really happened may be at once contradicted. It would be too tiresome to go through all the mistakes, but the one about my not being at Brantwood with Mrs. Severn is quite untrue. We have always lived here for some parts of the year for the last eighteen years, and during that time the Professor has constantly stayed with us at our house on Herne Hill. I will finish by just saying that it is quite untrue that his book business has been moved from Orpington. Mr. Allen is going to have a branch business in London, which his son is to have charge of, and will be easily able to get any books from his father; and that Mrs. Severn is not fifty, only just over forty, and was never adopted by an elderly lady, and that the Professor has no relation a Captain Ruskin, and his doctor's name is George Parsons (not Charles Powers), and his old doctor and college friend is Sir Henry Acland (not Dr. Aclands), &c., &c.—Yours obediently,

ARTHUR SEVERN.

Brantwood, Coniston, March 6.

THE SEARCH FOR HIDDEN TREASURE.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—The head of the expedition which you mention this evening is that very Mr. Knight who is named in my *Fortnightly Review* article. I leave you to say whether such a dare-devil explorer is quite the sort of person who should be scoffed at by Mr. Rider Haggard—of all men.—Yours truly,

JAMES RUNCIMAN.

Kingston-on-Thames, March 4.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

Stamford has the honour, as the Tory electioneers have been pointing out, of being the second contested constituency to express its opinion of the Parnell Commission. But as the seat was not contested in 1886, it is a little difficult to know how that opinion is to be deciphered. In 1885 the Tory majority was 1,101. In 1886, in neighbouring constituencies which were contested, the Tory vote very largely increased. In the North Lindsey division, for instance, the Liberal majority fell from 2,637 to 165, whilst in West Lindsey a Liberal majority of 1,105 was turned into a Tory majority of 85. It is therefore only reasonable to suppose that if Stamford had been contested in 1886, the Tory majority would have risen to 1,500 or even 2,000. If the Tory majority to-day turns out to be above 1,500, the result will be a Tory victory; if below, it will be a Liberal rally.

In the two other contests which are pending, the Liberals will have to strain every nerve to hold their own. At Stoke-upon-Trent, indeed, they must do more; they must go back from 1886 (majority 1,162) to "as in 1885" (majority 1,990). In the Ayr Burghs, where Mr. Sinclair is about to retire, they have to maintain the "change of air" registered at the by-election in June, 1888. This is a big order; but in Mr. Edmund Routledge, the accepted Liberal candidate, we have one who is used to executing big orders.

So it was France rather than England, or, at any rate, France as well as England, that secured the elimination of the hours of labour from the agenda paper for the Berlin Conference. No doubt, from the point of view of political and military considerations, M. Spuller was wise in backing up Lord Salisbury. One sees the kind of criticism to which M. Spuller would otherwise have laid himself open from M. Laur's speech, in which he suggested that "the object of Germany in convoking the Conference was to cripple the defence of France by reducing her output of coal, and consequently her stock, so necessary in time of war." Nevertheless the exclusion from the Conference of the most important topic is in the interests of the workers a misfortune; and it required some hardihood on M. Spuller's part to declare, as he did in the Chamber yesterday, that France in excluding the mere discussion of the reduction of hours of labour was speaking "the language of reason, humanity, civilization, and progress."

Slight as it was, the debate last night on the India Councils Bill in the House of Lords suggests questions as to how long it will be possible for reactionary forces to stand against the growing movement in favour of some of the demands of the National Congress. That the introduction of the elective principle into the heterogeneous peninsula of Hindostan cannot be "rushed" is obvious on the face of things. But who proposes to rush it? Not even the "agitators." The proposal slightly to adulterate the Legislative Councils with that principle by means of the cautious machinery of the Electoral College is surely not very revolutionary. But, it is objected, that is only a step. But it is one the consequences of which are calmly contemplated by almost every ex-Viceroy among us—Lord Dufferin, Lord Ripon, and, may we not add, Lord Northbrook? It means, of course, as Lord Salisbury pointed out, introducing Western civilization. Exactly. That is why it is consonant with that putting of Western wine into Eastern bottles, which constitutes our whole policy. On the assumption of the feasibility and beneficence of that process rests our rule in India.

The *Standard* continues, we see, to insinuate the foulest charges against Egan. We hold no sort of brief for that gentleman. But seeing that nothing was set forth against him in the Commission Report, and that he is now the accredited representative of one friendly Power to another friendly Power, might not a little decent reserve be advisable?

The London School Board did a very wise thing yesterday in resolving to petition the Education Department to urge a change in the method of filling up casual vacancies from co-optation to an appeal to the constituency in which the vacancy occurs. We have often pointed out the need for abolishing the opportunity which the co-optative system gives to a gerrymandering majority; and the Board has chosen exactly the right moment to urge the same need. For we are now expecting a speedy assimilation of the School Board constituencies with the parliamentary, and that change, which will make all the districts single-membered, will so simplify the elections as to clear the way for the abolition of co-optation. The redistribution reform must be accompanied by the granting of the desire expressed by the Board yesterday.

So "the shouting Emperor" did shout, after all, and not merely speak, as was first reported. Yesterday we were told that in referring to his political opponents he merely said they "must take the consequences," and that the stronger version of his remark was not correct. To-day, however, the official papers expressly contradict the contradiction, and the passage now finally stands thus:—

> Those who help me, be they who they will, I heartily welcome. Those who oppose me I will dash in pieces.

For "dash in pieces," some of the other correspondents give "crush" (*? vernichten* or *zu Grunde richten*). There is certainly more character in this authorized version; but whether there is more statesmanship, is another matter. A threat-at-large to dash people in pieces is not a very prudent way of meeting a Reichstag, in which to manufacture a majority will be a work of the utmost nicety.

As we are all Socialists now, according to Historicus Harcourt, so we are all naturally anxious to prove that we are not the detested contrary. There is touching anxiety among all sorts and conditions of men to escape the ugly imputation of being "Bourgeois." What is a Bourgeois? In England the landed aristocrat would feel as deeply insulted as any Social Democratic wage-slave at being characterized by that unpopular epithet. We mostly think of the comfortable well-to-do Philistine, the small or great capitalist in shop or factory, as the Bourgeois—a man corresponding in our time to the "Cit" of the satirists and playwrights of the last century. The German Socialists, however, in their electioneering programme, have insisted upon the definition that "jeder Besitzende ein Bourgeois ist." Everybody who possesses anything—William Morris, for example—is a Bourgeois. Until the State, or the local commune, has become universal proprietor, it is hard to see how there can be anybody (outside the older monastic orders) who is not a Bourgeois. Even "the beggar's rags fluttering in air," unless he has made them over to the commonwealth, make it impossible for him to be anything but a theoretical Socialist. It is a pity that we cannot find some genuine Teutonic word, English or German, for this ugly epithet—"stolen," as the Laureate would remind us, "from France."

NEW BOOKS.

"THE BRAIN OF AN ARMY."

"The Brain of an Army: a Popular Account of the German General Staff." By Spenser Wilkinson. (Macmillan.) The German Emperor is reported to have said the other day that he wished he had "a fleet like England's, only without its defects." To wish that England had an army exactly like Germany's would be absurd; for the work which the service has to do in the two countries severally is very different. But the Queen of England might well return her grandson's compliment by wishing she had "a General Staff like Germany's, with or without its defects." There is a hope abroad that the forthcoming Report of the Select Committee on the Army and Navy Estimates may lead to some reorganization of "the brain of the army" on the German lines. If so, Mr. Spenser Wilkinson's account of the German General Staff, distinct alike from the Commander-in-Chief (as being concerned with one department only—namely, the strategical direction) and from the Minister of War (as being free from cares of administration)—will become an indispensable handbook. It is admirably adapted for such a purpose. It is a model of clearness in exposition, combined with attractiveness in presentation. Indeed, there is not a dull page in the book; and by taking the story of a veritable campaign (namely, the opening movements of 1866) as his starting-point, Mr. Wilkinson lends to his pages the charm of actuality. In this respect his book reflects one of the chief virtues of the organization which it describes. For the German General Staff discusses the theory of war, but discusses it always in relation to practice; and every member of the Staff (with the exception of a few scientific experts) alternates between study at Berlin and regimental service in the ranks.

"ANECDOTES OF THE CLERGY."

"Anecdotes of the Clergy; or, The Antiquities, Humours, and Eccentricities of the Cloth." By Jacob Larwood. (Chatto and Windus.) The compiler of this book lays claim to no originality for his work. He has simply picked up here and there, wherever he could lay his hands on them, the best stories of and concerning the clergy. We recognize among them many old acquaintances which have done good service in the collections of Dean Ramsay, Hislop, and others. But a good anecdote can be told many times, always providing that it is told well. Numbers of the stories relate to famous divines—Berkeley, Sydney Smith, Wesley, and Robert Hall among the rest. Here is a sample of the sack: it is told as of a chaplain, but we have heard it attributed to one of the Bishops of Sodor and Man, on the voyage from Liverpool to Douglas:—"In a storm at sea the chaplain asked one of the crew if he thought there was any danger. 'Why,' replied the sailor, 'if this continues we shall all be in heaven before to-morrow morning.' The chaplain, horrified at these words, at once exclaimed, 'The Lord forbid!'"

"A SOUTHERN PLANTER."

"A Southern Planter." By Susan Dabney Smedes. (John Murray.) Mr. Gladstone's references to this book have given it an amount of attention it might not otherwise have secured, but it has especial merits that fully deserve recognition. It is a simple, pathetic record of a brave man, who happened to be a planter, but would have been kind, generous, and heroic under any conditions favourable for the display of such virtues. Happily, few of us are blind to the sunny side of slavery in the Southern States. It was not all maize and molasses, however, but men like Thomas Dabney seldom saw and always covered up, and generally denied, the existence of any of the hideous features of black servitude. But they were present all the same, and they peep out of the pleasant pages and bright letters in this romantic work. The war crisis, as told by the fair authoress, was simply terrible in its strain and privations. The story of the wash-tub is worthy of Browning. Sherman was reported as saying that he should like to bring every Southern lady to the wash-tub. Dabney was acutely hit by it. "He shall never bring my daughters to the wash-tub," he said. "I will do the washing myself." He did it for two years, a man of seventy. A book with character-touches in it like this never fails to be interesting

A GARDEN BOOK.

"The Culture of Vegetables and Flowers." By Sutton and Sons. Fourth Edition. (Simpkin.) The book is well printed in good large type and is well arranged. Both vegetables and flowers are treated twice over, first in alphabetical order and then in their place in the year's work; the plan entails a good deal of repetition, but saves the reader trouble. Naturally Messrs. Sutton are great believers in seeds; even in the matter of lawns they lose no time in "assuming the question to be settled in favour of seeds." But no doubt they know best in this and in other matters; and their book is perhaps as good as, or better than, others of its kind. But it is strange to find how much such books are alike. Such remarks as "the double-flowering variety (of snowdrop) is exquisitely beautiful. We might, indeed, speak of it as a bit of vegetable jewellery. The flowers are bell-shaped, closely packed with petals, like so many microscopic petticoats for the 'fairy' of a fairy," or "A description (of the sunflower) is needless, for the multitude of representation, more or less accurate, issued for the æsthetic school, have perhaps made the sunflower a trifle too familiar"—such poetical or jocose remarks as these are characteristic of all modern books on gardening. It is much to be desired that some country parson, for instance, who can handle the pen as well as the hoe, would write a plain book for the amateur. Such a writer would understand that most of us have other things to attend to besides our gardens, and are content to leave the prizes at horticultural shows to others. He would not offer us advice as to the mixed border, select border, and parterre, nor say that this or that flower "is now regarded with marked public favour; its markings are so refined that they command the admiration of tastes the most cultivated, in fact it is equally popular in the mansion and the cottage." It seems that William Cobbett's excellent book on gardening is no longer to be had. This is a pity.

"JAMES VRAILLE."

"James Vraille: the Story of a Life." By Jeffery C. Jefferey. In two volumes. (W. H. Allen and Co.) "James Vraille" seems to us to be a powerful and impressive book. It is permeated with one idea, from which there is no relief. Vraille began by being an unlucky man, and he remained one throughout life. Yet we can hardly think his death sad, and it was assuredly well that he should die. There was a sense, however, in which Vraille was fortunate. He had a naturally cheerful disposition, and all "good fellows" liked him. But he had the misfortune to marry a beautiful girl without a heart. Also "she is a fool, and I do hate fools," as her mother remarked of her forcibly. Lucy, indeed, was so obviously heartless that we almost wonder at Vraille continuing to be taken in by her as long as he did. We really hope that not many sensible young gentlemen would continue to worship at the shrine of a divinity, however fair, who remarked on the prospect of having her own photograph taken, "Oh, that's better than all the pictures in the National Gallery, isn't it?" Most men, no doubt, would answer, "Yes, darling;" but they would break off the engagement at a more convenient season. Vraille, however, does not seem to have noticed the remark; possibly he was a little deaf. He married the beauty, anyway, and carried her off with him to India, where she had a "really good time." The bustle of life there, the gaiety and the thoughtlessness, are very graphically described, but if we offer any criticism to Mr. Jefferey, it must be in the form of a wish that he had given us as less of the objectionable Mr. Rooke (sometimes spelt Rook) with whom Lucy finally ran away. Then Vraille has to begin life over again, and at first he cannot get on with it. He lives in solitude and reflects about the Wherefore of the Universe. After a little, however, it is suggested to him that he should take charge of his little son, who has been hitherto under the care of a most admirable nurse. He takes kindly to the idea, and in little Jim he finds his salvation. The prematurely aged man passes a very pleasant and quiet autumn of his life watching the development of his son. Mr. Jefferey certainly must have an appreciation of the pathetic, and some readers may quarrel with him for making little Jim die and his father follow him very quickly to the grave. But to us it seems really an appropriate ending to a life which had lost its joyousness, and could not even look into the past without a pang. There are other characters in the book which are attractive, and the author's style is good. One does not notice his words, because they tell their story simply and effectively, and because their story is worth being told

LAWYERS AT LOGGERHEADS.

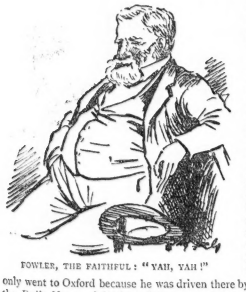
IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS YESTERDAY.

THE usually placid half-hour between 3 and 3.30, nominally devoted to private business, was broken yesterday by a brisk debate on the Thames Watermen and Lightermen Bill. Mr. Lafone, of dock strike fame, moved the rejection of the bill, and was supported by several Liberals from below the gangway. Mr. Chamberlain could not understand why Liberals should be in favour of the maintenance of the monopoly which the bill sought to remove. Why should a licence be required for watermen on the Thames when none is required on the Tyne? Hereupon the bill was read a second time and referred to a Select Committee. A long series of dull questions followed, and members and reporters wearily asked, Why cannot Ministers print their answers instead of mumbling them from prepared manuscripts?

SIR CHARLES RUSSELL.

Mr. Webb, the new member for West Waterford, then took his seat amid cheers from the Opposition, and then Mr. Bryce finished off the speech that had been left hanging over from Wednesday. The sweet reasonableness of the member for South Aberdeen hardly satisfied the fighting instincts of the House, and there was a burst of cheering when Sir Charles Russell jumped to his feet. The great counsel seemed to be still inspired with the fire that blazed out so brilliantly ten months ago in the Law Courts. There was a freedom of manner and an eloquence of language that lawyer-politicians rarely attain to. And more than once did the hon. and learned member, by some phrase or sentiment, remind his audience that, in this cause, he was following the great Liberal leader. The speech was well thought out and full of sparkling phrases, but at this stage of the controversy fresh arguments or original matter can hardly be looked for. After the conventional compliments to the judges and their good intentions, Sir Charles asked, with emphasis, why these three judges, of all others, should be complimented on that impartiality which was properly assumed to be the attribute of every judge of the realm. Speaking as counsel for Mr. Parnell, he complained that the case had not been conducted with the same scrupulous care for the accused as in an ordinary criminal trial. It was a "game of surprises." We never knew from day to day the sort of evidence we should have to deal with. Then came a vigorous onslaught on the Attorney-General for his speech at the Strafford Club at Oxford. The place was indeed well chosen for a speech in defence of Mr. Balfour's administration, for one of the principal counts in the impeachment of the nobleman who gave his name to the club was that "he had introduced an arbitrary and tyrannical government into the said kingdom of Ireland." Sir Charles drew a playful picture of the Attorney-General at first relenting towards the Irish members, and dropping a tear of penitence in the silence of his chamber; but then, when he found himself on the platform, again freely spattering them with the tar-brush of false accusation. Later on, in analyzing the charges in the report, he allowed that the Irish members had conspired to get rid of the English garrison of landlords; but the garrison was willing enough to capitulate, and was now negotiating terms with the Chief Secretary. After detailing at considerable length the story of the forgeries, Sir Charles Russell wound up a most powerful speech by an eloquent tribute to the character and motives of Mr. Parnell and his followers. Somewhat to the disappointment of the House, which was beginning to get hungry, Sir Richard Webster rose immediately to reply. It would be flattery to call the Attorney-General an attractive speaker, and even his supporters recognized this by silently gliding away as soon as the learned advocate was fairly embarked on his two hours' speech. Sir Robert Fowler the Faithful stayed and cheered at the appropriate pauses with the regularity of the claque at a French play. The first law officer of the Crown began by explaining that he only went to Oxford because he was driven there by the wicked machinations of the *Daily News* and *Pall Mall Gazette*; and, indeed, these two journals seemed to be responsible for all Sir Richard's recent irregularities. Nearly the whole of a terribly long speech was devoted to a minute defence of his own conduct in court. "I only ask for justice," he plaintively said; "don't put all the blame on me; my colleagues were quite as bad." He scored off Sir Charles, however, with regard to the charge of "surprise evidence." "It was always open to my learned friend," he said, "to defer his cross-examination, and only twice didhe think it necessary to do so. The evidence was usually taken county by county."—("And gaol by gaol," shouted O'Hanlon, who was perched up in the gallery. After the magnificent speech by Mr. Gladstone on Monday, there was something very pitiful in these personal recriminations between the two lawyers. The leader of the Opposition had lifted the debate to the highest plane of Imperial politics; the Attorney-General dragged it down to the level of a vestry squabble. Mr. Edward Harrington followed, and then Colonel Saunderson rose and turned up his cuffs for a fight. He began by remarking that Sir Charles Russell's residence on this side of the Channel had not destroyed his Irish imagination. Incidentally the gallant colonel gave his views on the nature of treason, declaring that it all depended on success—a remark loudly cheered by his opponents. After some dull extracts from musty speeches, he turned to send Sir William Harcourt. He chaffed him on the fact that he had cost the ratepayers £10,000 for police protection, and alluded gently to the large superficies that had to be guarded. "His bodyguard now is furnished by the Irish party and paid for by Patrick Ford." After the fiery invective of the member for North Armagh, the measured tones of Mr. Justin MacCarthy, who rose next, came as a gentle sedative suggestion of bedtime, and the House adjourned.

"IN THE SILENCE OF HIS CHAMBER."



FOWLER, THE FAITHFUL: "YAH, YAH!"

COLONEL SAUNDERSON. "I was born Irish and been so ever since."

THE GREAT AMERICAN MONOPOLY.

THE view of the Standard Oil Company presented by "A London Oil Broker," in a recent issue, does not meet with the approval of those in the trade. Messrs. S. Bowley and Son write:—

A London oil broker, writing to your paper of the 24th ult., is strangely ignorant of the Standard Oil Company's practices when he poses this trust on the side of "philanthropy" benefiting millions, particularly "the poor," knowing that this company established itself, in the first place, by an overreaching railway contract, which enabled it to ruin nearly all those existing in the trade by using their gain from the railway to undersell to the public. This is very much on the principle that Sydney Smith describes from hearing a good charity sermon: he was so impressed that he felt inclined to put his hands into both his neighbour's pockets, and give something. Evil may be done that good may come. Robbery that can evade the laws, provided some of the proceeds are given to the public, may assume this justification. But is it true that the public have obtained a cheaper article, except at the time the crushing-out process was going on? As soon as that was carried out sufficiently the price returned to what any refinery could produce it at.

Philanthropy! Was ever a greater example of the wolf in lamb's clothing? The cheapness of petroleum as a light-giver depends upon the largeness of the supply, not upon any efforts of the Standard Oil Company. The public is benefited by competition always, not by combination, which is an effort in an entirely contrary direction. Our only contention is, that this company has made bad use of its power, which was gained in an unfair way to commence with; fortunately, this is known on this side of the Atlantic.

"Anti-Monopolist" writes:—"The benevolent and philanthropic colouring your correspondent 'Oil Broker' gives to the policy of the Standard Oil Company and its results contrasts strangely with the facts of the war of extermination this company has waged against competition in the refining section and its tactics in the crude oil producing section of the petroleum industry of the United States of America. A similar attempt to glorify the Standard Oil Company was made a few years ago by the publication of a pamphlet written by the company's attorney. It passed into oblivion almost as soon as it was published, accompanied by the ironical smiles of those who were acquainted with the history of the Standard Oil Company. After they had acquired the position of monopolists, Mr. John D. Rockafeller and his associates were wise enough to shape their policy in favour of the consumer. But does 'Oil Broker' want to create the impression upon the mind of the British public that a system of free competition would not have brought the same results? The very inferior American petroleum which has lately been placed on the market under the brand Tearose by the Anglo-American Oil Company, the English organization of the Standard Oil Company, proves that the consumer is not served to the greatest advantage by a monopoly and that the benevolent and philanthropic policy of the Standard Oil Company is of a very peculiar kind."

The Ladies' Corner.

LADIES AS DOMESTIC SERVANTS.

A SUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENT.

It is so often said that the plan of engaging ladies as domestic servants does not succeed, that it is satisfactory to hear at least of one case where the plan has been tried most satisfactorily by a lady who has a domestic establishment both in London and in the country.

The eternal servant question cropping up in a recent conversation with this lady (writes a lady representative) I asked her how the plan of employing educated women of the upper classes as servants had answered. "It has been entirely successful," was the reply, "and my servants are now always ladies. I have one a housemaid, a charming girl, who is the daughter of a medical man, and all of whose male relations are professional men, and who does her work as thoroughly and as well as any ordinary servant could be expected to do it."

"Then you do not find that, after the glamour of novelty is worn off, the lady-servants begin to find it rather unpleasant to do menial work?"—"Not in the least. If they are real ladies (and it is of course only in cases where they are that it can succeed) they will know that menial work does not lower them. Of course I try to avoid giving them so-called 'dirty' work as much as possible. For instance, blacking grates is very unpleasant work, and very ungrateful work, too, for the result is never lasting and never particularly effective. I therefore have only grates decorated with tiles as much as possible, and with the smallest part of ironwork requiring blacking. Again, in order to avoid scrubbing, I have the floors covered with a material which only requires wiping. A great many arrangements can be made in this way to make housework less hard and unpleasant, and if we, the mistresses, would only spend a little more thought on these matters, I am sure there would be fewer complaints from and about servants.

"At the same time," the lady went on, "I always insist very strongly on my servants fulfilling every duty they have undertaken to perform. If they engage to black my boots they have to do it, and do it regularly and well. But this does not prevent me from having them in my drawing-room after dinner and playing a game of whist or any other game with them. Their lives are, even under the most favourable circumstances, rather monotonous, and where we can put a little colour and brightness into them I think it is our duty to do it."

"Then do they take their meals with you, too?"—"No, as a rule I find that they prefer to take their meals together, separately, and as they have to cook and serve the meals, this is a more convenient arrangement. But otherwise I treat them as equals, and I have not found that they abuse this treatment."

TO-DAY'S NEW BOOKS.

[Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the prices of books. Any notices under this head do not preclude further review should such seem to be necessary.]

ABBOTT, EVELYN, M.A., LL.D., and P. E. MATHESON, M.A. "Demosthenes' Orations against Philip." (Oxford: At the Clarendon Press.)
[Vol. II. in two parts, the first containing the Introduction and Text, the second the Notes. The Orations given are: "On the Peace," "Philippic II.," "On the Chersonese," and "Philippic III." Cloth. Pp. 136 and 86. Price 3s.]

BESANT, WALTER. "Captain Cook." (Macmillan and Co.)
[A volume of the "English Men of Action" series. Cloth. Pp. 190. Price 2s. 6d. Portrait.]

CESARESCO, Countess EVELYN MARTINENGO. "Italian Characters in the Epoch of Unification." (Fisher Unwin.)
[A series of ten sketches. Cloth. Pp. 396. Price 16s.]

GOWER, Lord RONALD. "Rupert on the Rhine." (Kegan Paul, Trench, and Co.)
[A biographical sketch, with three portraits after Kneller, Dobson, and Vandyke. Cloth. Pp. x., 130.]

JONES, LLOYD. "The Life, Times, and Labours of Robert Owen." (Swan Sonnenschein and Co.)
[A new edition, prepared by Mr. William Cairns Jones, who prefixes a brief account of his father's life. Two volumes in one. Cloth. Portraits.]

MCLINTOCK, R. (Editor). "Heine as Novelist and Dramatist." (Roper and Drowley.)
[Translations from some of Heine's longer works. Preface and portrait. Cloth. Pp. xiii., 266. Price 7s. 6d.]

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SIR RICHARD WEBSTER'S EXCUSE.

The Attorney-General made an attempt last night to justify his historic speech at Oxford by reference to the *Pall Mall Gazette* and *Daily News*. On Friday and Saturday we "had asserted," says the Attorney-General, "in the most positive manner, that the Report was an absolute and complete acquittal of the Irish members. The judges, who were lauded up to the skies, were said to have acquitted the Irish members in every particular." Now, as regards the *Daily News* we cannot speak. That journal may conceivably have taken the line imputed to it. In any case the Attorney-General can hardly bring us in under his favourite doctrine of conspiracy by implication. The *Pall Mall Gazette* and the *Daily News* are friends, it is true; but such very candid friends that they can scarcely be held responsible for each other's utterances. And as applied to the *Pall Mall Gazette*, we shall show that the Attorney-General's excuses rest on the most barefaced misrepresentation. Thus:—

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL says:—	THE TRUTH:—
That we asserted the Report to be an absolute and complete acquittal.	"Of the 15 charges . . . the Commissioners find 7 to be wholly untrue, 3 to be half untrue, 1 to be unproven, and 5 to be true."—*P.M.G.*, Friday, Feb. 14.
That the judges were "lauded up to the skies."	"They brought to the inquiry minds imbued with all the sympathies and prejudices to which those charges were concocted to pander. They maintained, it would seem, those sympathies and prejudices to the end. . . . It shows how entirely the judges took the good old Tory line of looking only at effects, and never probing to causes."—Extract from *Pall Mall Gazette* Leader, Saturday, Feb. 15, entitled "A Verdict *Malgré Lui*."
And "said to have acquitted the Irish members in every particular."	See complete list of Charges and Findings set out at large, *P.M.G.*, Friday, Feb. 14, including five marked as "*True*."

It is true that while we gave the full facts of the Report, our comment on them was that what was new was not true, and what was true was not new. We could not help that. It was the simple fact. But when the Attorney-General adds that had he kept silence "the *Pall Mall Gazette* would have exulted in" his "not daring to refer to the Report," he is mistaken. We should not have exulted exactly, but we should certainly have been mildly surprised, that if Sir Richard Webster had not the grace to make amends for his discredited calumnies, he had at length acquired the decency to hold his tongue.

M. EIFFEL'S DESCRIPTION OF THE FORTH BRIDGE

"THE GREATEST WONDER OF THE CENTURY."

SPECIAL MESSAGE TO THE "PALL MALL GAZETTE."

It is needless to say that it was not from lack of enterprise on the part of the London press that the impressions of the great French engineer, M. Eiffel, upon his recent visit to this country, have not been conveyed to the British public. On one occasion, we believe, a round dozen of London journalists were lying in wait for our distinguished visitor in the lobby of the Grosvenor Hotel; but their quest was fruitless: even the fact that two of the would-be interviewers were ladies failed to influence the determination of the gallant Frenchman to avoid the penalties of Press publicity. The last hope of the eager journalists was founded upon the presence of M. Eiffel at the Lord Mayor's luncheon party at the Mansion House, but here again they were doomed to disappointment, special facilities being offered to M. Eiffel for an unmolested departure from the historic building on the conclusion of the pleasant international function. But we are proud to be in a position to add that we have been made the recipient of a special telegraphic message from our illustrious guest on the very eve of his departure from our shores.

M. Eiffel, it appears, "was very much struck with admiration by the Forth Bridge, and considers it a great honour to the English engineers—Sir John Fowler, Sir Benjamin Baker, and Sir William Arrol." M. Eiffel adds that he "considers the bridge the greatest wonder of this century."

THE FRENCH IN DAHOMEY.

A Central News telegram from Paris says:—An interpellation will be addressed to M. Spuller, at the meeting of the Chamber to-morrow, regarding recent events in Dahomey.

The Paris correspondent of the Exchange Company writes that the news of more fighting in Dahomey has caused considerable sensation in political circles. It is feared that the small French garrison at Kotonon will be unable to resist the continued attacks of the Dahomeyans, who are in strong force and fight well. The French residents who have fallen into the hands of the enemy are doomed to a horrible death. The idea of annexing Dahomey, or, as the French put it, establishing a French protectorate, meets with great opposition. Apparently the French mission in Dahomey will be a second edition of the Tonquin expedition, but far greater reinforcements than those already sent out will be necessary to overcome the black king, who is determined to defend himself to the last man. It is doubtful, however, if the Chamber will consent to this new expedition.

POLLING DAY IN STAMFORD.

Polling commenced this morning in the Stamford division of Lincolnshire for the election of a member of Parliament in the room of Mr. J. C. Lawrance (Conservative), who has been made a judge. The candidates are Mr. Henry John Cockayne Cust (C.) and Mr. Arthur Priestley (G.L.). The principal centres of activity in the division are Grantham, Stamford, Bourne, and Corby, and the votes will be counted and the result declared at Bourne to-morrow. The figures at the last contested election in 1885 were:—

Lawrance (C.)	4,631
Cudlip (L.)	3,530
	1,101

There was no contest in 1886.

STAMFORD, 10 o'clock.

There are twenty polling stations. Mr. Arthur Priestley has started on a tour of the division from the Newark end, and will traverse each village and place having a polling station to Bourne and Stamford district, a distance of nearly 40 miles. Mr. Cust has also commenced his tour in a carriage from Belton House, Grantham. The weather is fair, but inclined to be showery.

STAMFORD, 10.20.

Many electors were at the polling stations just before eight o'clock, evidently with the determination of being the first to record a vote for their favourite candidate. Except for the first few minutes, however, the polling has so far been by no means brisk. An unusually heavy poll is expected.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT IN THE POTTERIES.

A railway accident occurred last night between Stoke and Trentham, when a Stafford train, leaving Stoke at half-past seven, ran into a goods train. Several waggons were smashed, and the line was torn up. The driver was seriously injured, but the passengers escaped with a severe shaking.

THE MURDER OF AN ENGLISHMAN IN CANADA.

EVIDENCE OF MR. PELLEY.

A telegram from Niagara Falls says that at the preliminary examination of the case against Burchell, who is accused of murdering Mr. Benwell, Mr. Pelley, who has had no opportunity of talking with Burchell since his arrest, said Mrs. Burchell had told him of the finding of the body, and that Benwell had been murdered. Burchell had once said to him, "What a nice place Wine-Pond is," and had declared that he would drive out to it during the summer. Wine-Pond is near the place where Benwell's body was found. "Burchell told me," continued the witness, "that Benwell gave him the keys for his trunks in order to pass his (Benwell's) baggage. A detective testified that Burchell said he could not recognize Benwell's clothes from the photograph taken after death, while Pelley quickly recognized them, and said they were made of odd material, and that a person could not be mistaken about them. The chief of the police testified that when he arrested Burchell he found on him a bunch of keys, which fitted Benwell's luggage. Among other things was a tin box containing papers and letters relating to the transactions between Burchell, Benwell, and Pelley before leaving England. Mrs. Burchell's effects were also searched. Burchell's examination was adjourned to the 12th inst. Mrs. Burchell is still under arrest as an accessory. Detective Murray says there is not the slightest doubt that Benwell was murdered on February 17, and there will be proof that the prisoner was seen to board a train at Eastwood, near the scene of the murder, with his trousers rolled up and his clothing covered with mud, on the afternoon of that day.

117 MINERS' LIVES ENDANGERED.

AN ENGINEER ASLEEP AT HIS POST.

At the Pontypridd Police-court to-day, before the stipendiary magistrate, Thomas Jones Rowlands, engineer, was charged with a serious breach of the special rules under the Coal Mines Regulations Act. Defendant had charge of the fan engine used for ventilating the workings at the National Colliery, Rhondda Valley. Mr. Meredith, manager of the colliery, visited the engine-room at half-past ten on Sunday evening, and found defendant asleep on the floor. The ventilation of the colliery, where 117 miners were at work, was seriously reduced, rendering the mine dangerous. The stipendiary imposed the heaviest penalty permitted by the law.

MR. HENRY GEORGE'S WELCOME TO AUSTRALIA.

Mr. Henry George, who was a passenger by the mail steamer *Mariposa*, belonging to the Union Steamship Company of New Zealand, was formally welcomed by the mayor at the Town Hall, Melbourne, yesterday evening. A large number of people were present, and the proceedings were marked by much enthusiasm.—*Reuter.*

LIVERPOOL DOCKERS' STRIKE.—20,000 MEN ON PARADE.

A procession of dock labourers, numbering over 20,000 men, paraded the streets of Liverpool yesterday. Yesterday was the most serious day of any, and very little work was done at the docks. The shipowners are importing men into the town as fast as they can, and hundreds have been obtained, but the number of labourers on strike is so great that many ships and steamers have to remain idle. The coal-heavers at Bootle also struck yesterday against the employment of non-union hands in discharging cargoes. The new hands are being kept inside the docks, so that the union men cannot molest them. The police are on extra duty at the docks, and several omnibus loads of them were drafted into both the north and south docks.

MUTILATING MR. GLADSTONE'S LETTERS.

Mr. Gladstone writes to the *Daily News*:—"The text of letters from me appearing in the papers and not published by myself is not always to be trusted. The text in your issue of to-day respecting the Viceroyalty of Ireland and Lord Chancellorship has by some accident been mutilated. It contained nothing about any demands made by our Roman Catholic fellow-subjects.—Your faithful servant, W. E. GLADSTONE. March 6, '90."

THE DUKE'S PRESENT TO THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

The Duke of Westminster has presented to the Crystal Palace Company for addition to their notable collection of casts and statues the original model, by Mr. G. F. Watts, R.A., of the fine colossal statue of the ancestor of the Grosvenor family, Hugh Lupus, first Earl of Chester and nephew of William the Conqueror, by whom he was entrusted with the government of the Palatine of Chester. The statue in bronze is erected in front of Eaton Hall, Chester, one of the country seats of the Duke of Westminster.

MAJOR WISSMANN'S FIGHT WITH THE ARABS.

Despatches have been received from Major Wissmann describing his capture of an Arab stronghold on the 4th of January last. The attack was completely successful. Major Wissmann describes the resistance of the Arabs as the strongest he has yet encountered. He highly praises the courage of his Soudanese troops. Major Wissmann further gives an account of a voyage he has undertaken along the coast in company with the directors of the German East African Company, with a view of choosing sites for factories, and also an account of the regulations regarding the importation of arms and munitions of war. He describes the prospects of the territory under his command as excellent.

A BODY UNEARTHED BY DOGS.

A shocking discovery has been made in St. Michael's Churchyard, Workington. The gravedigger, noticing two dogs scratching up the ground furiously, drove them off, and found that they had unearthed a box containing the body of a child. The head of the child was bent into its neck, and its knees were doubled up so as to enable it to be squeezed into the box. The police are investigating the matter.

THE THAMES SHIP JOINERS' STRIKE.

The society of Ship Joiners of the River Thames has issued a notice to all joiners (society and non-society) calling upon them to cease work for the following firms:—Thames Iron Shipbuilding Company, Samuda Brothers, Messrs. H. Green, Latham, and Stewart, the Yarrow Company, and Messrs. Edwards and Symes, these firms having offered to concede the sixpence per day demanded for repairing work only, and not for new or contract work.

BUSINESS AT THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.

A number of printed questions and answers were placed before the School Board for London yesterday. One related to the case of Richard Richardson. The others had reference to insanitary schools and the training ship *Shaftesbury*. It was decided to apply to the Home Office for authority to make temporary arrangements for truant cases, pending the building of a new school. Some discussion took place as to the electoral divisions and the filling of vacancies occurring on the Board between the general elections, and it was resolved that a deputation should be appointed to wait upon the Vice-President of the Committee of Council on Education with regard to this subject. A letter came from Sir Edmund Currie, resigning his seat.

RAILWAY RATES INQUIRY.

The Railway Rates Inquiry was resumed at Westminster Town Hall this morning. Mr. S. Forster Brown, civil engineer, was examined by Mr. Jeune, Q.C., as to the local coal traffic on the Taff Vale Railway.

MURDER OF A MOTHER-IN-LAW.—REPRIEVE.

The governor of Carlisle Gaol received last night a telegram from Major Markham, high sheriff of Westmoreland, requesting him to stay all proceedings for the execution of John Metcalfe, under sentence of death for the murder of his mother-in-law, at Long Marton. The governor afterwards received a private message stating that Metcalfe had been reprieved.

The vicarage of Christ Church, South Hackney, vacant by the death of the Rev. Dr. Egan, has been conferred by Canon Lefer, the Rector of South Hackney, on the Rev. F. R. Walker, one of the most hard-working and successful of the East London clergy.

The Rev. Arthur Robins, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Windsor, one of her Majesty's chaplains, is pronounced out of danger, and has been ordered to the Channel-Islands as soon as he can travel.

The *Freeman's Journal* states that Mr. Parnell, who is still suffering from a cold, but is decidedly better, will speak in the debate on Monday, besides Mr. Healy, Sir William Harcourt, Mr. Goschen, Mr. Chamberlain, and Mr. Balfour.

According to the London correspondent of the *Manchester Examiner*, Mr. Caine, M.P., has definitely decided to vote with the Opposition in the division on the report of the Special Commission.

THE GERMAN EMPEROR'S REMARKABLE SPEECH.

ANOTHER AND MORE ELOQUENT VERSION.

The Emperor's speech on Wednesday night at the banquet of the Brandenburger Diet is (says the Berlin correspondent of the *Morning Post*) regarded universally as the most remarkable he has yet delivered. The passage in which he describes the value of his journeys is marked by indubitable eloquence and nobility of thought. "These journeys, which were the subjects of much misapprehension, had for me this great value, that away from party movements of the day I could look at home affairs from afar, and examine them in peace. Whoever, alone with himself on the high seas, kneeling on the ship's bridge, with only God's starry heavens above him, has entered into the chamber of his own heart, will not miss the value of such a voyage. I could wish that many of my countrymen should know such hours, in which a man can give account to himself of what he has won and done. Here lies a cure for over-estimates of self, and we all need this." His references to industry and trade were marked by a rarely insight and earnestness. "In my room," said he, "hangs a picture which was long forgotten. It shows a line of proud ships with Brandenburg's red eagle on their flag. This picture reminds me daily that already in his day the Great Elector saw clearly that Brandenburg must win itself a position in the markets of the world in order to turn to the best account its industry and industrial energy." This example his grandfather had followed, and he, too, would follow. "I have, therefore," he said, "after my energies had been in the first instance directed to securing peace abroad, turned my eyes to affairs at home." Regarding his general conception of his duties, the Emperor said that he followed the view of his grandfather, who regarded his position as a duty set him by God, to which he devoted himself with all his heart and his highest moments. He added: "I see in the people and the land which have descended to me a talent, entrusted to me by God, which, as the Bible says, it is my duty to increase, and for which I shall one day have to give an account. I mean with all my strength to trade so with my talent that I hope I shall add many another to it. Those who will help me, be they who they will, I heartily welcome. Those who oppose me I will dash in pieces. Should grave times be before us, I am sure of the constancy of my Brandenburgers, and that they will stand by me faithfully in the fulfilment of my duty."

THE LORD MAYOR AND PUBLIC COMPANIES.

At the weekly meeting of the members of the City of London Tradesmen's Club, held at the Rainbow Tavern, Fleet-street, last night, under the presidency of Mr. Cattell, one of the subjects down on the agenda paper for discussion had reference to the action of Lord Mayor in regard to public companies. Mr. J. W. Thomas, who introduced the subject, moved the following resolution :—"That the association of the Lord Mayor in his official capacity with the formation of speculative companies is contrary to the traditions of the City and is not conducive to the best interests of the Corporation." In doing this he disclaimed the idea of personally attacking the Lord Mayor in his personal character, or attempting to make reflections on the companies over which he might be connected. The debate thus raised was adjourned till the next meeting of the club.

A JACK THE RIPPER OUTRAGE AT MOSCOW.

A telegram from Moscow received in Paris states that yesterday a parcel was left at the residence of Prince Dolgorukoff, the Governor, which was found on examination to contain the head of a woman and a red letter signed with two names, saying : "This is our first exploit, we shall soon out-do the Ripper." During the day the trunk and other portions of the body were found cut to pieces in two sacks. Several suspected persons have been arrested. Another account says that the woman was killed by the Nihilists for betraying the cause.

SIR RICHARD OWEN.

Sir Richard Owen's condition showed further improvement yesterday. A large number of inquiries have been made at Sheen Lodge, Richmond Park.

FUNERAL OF THE HON. MRS. THOMAS LIDDELL.

The funeral took place at Kensal-green to-day at noon of the Hon. Mrs Thomas Liddell, daughter of George, fifth Viscount Barrington, who has died at the age of ninety-one. The burial office was said by the Rev. R. Bruce Oxley, of Quebec Chapel, who in the early morning had celebrated the Holy Communion in the room where the deceased lay. Among the mourners were Viscount Barrington, the Hon. Eric Barrington, the Earl of Ravensworth, the Earl of Dartmouth, Mr. Arthur Liddell, Mr. Russell Barrington, Mr. H. Trotter, Mr. Cecil Austruther, and others. Wreaths and crosses of flowers were sent by the Countess of Ellesmere, the Countess of Normanton, Lady Frances Micheli, the Hon. Mr. George Campbell, Viscountess Barrington, Lady Haldon, the Misses Liddell, Miss Warren, and one very, very beautiful cross from the two trained nurses who attended her in her long illness.

MR. COURTNEY'S RULING.—MR. BRADLAUGH'S ACTION.

Mr. Bradlaugh has received an intimation that it will not be in order for him to raise the question of Mr. Courtney's ruling respecting the suspension of Mr. Labouchere on moving into Committee of Supply. The Clerk at the Table states that a topic of this kind can be discussed on a substantive motion, and it will be necessary therefore for recourse to be had to the ballot if the junior member for Northampton persists in taking action in the matter. Mr. Bradlaugh has discussed a precedent which he thinks has a distinct bearing on the present case. During the Speakership of Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, afterwards Viscount Eversley, Mr. Chisholm Anstey said on one occasion that Lord Palmerston had made a statement wilfully false to his own knowledge, whereupon the Speaker remarked that Mr. Anstey could not say that on a motion for the production of papers, but he would be justified in saying it on a motion directly attacking the Minister referred to. Mr. Bradlaugh contends that a motion to reduce the Secretary's salary was a motion directly attacking Lord Salisbury, and that Mr. Labouchere's statement was therefore pertinent and in order. In view of an early day being given for the discussion of Mr. Gladstone's motion, Mr. Bradlaugh will probably allow his motion to remain in abeyance for the present.

LORD ASHBURTON'S NEW YACHT.

The Exchange Telegraph Company learns that Lord Ashburton is about to take to yachting and has purchased the fine steam yacht *Lady Loch*, 564 tons, lately owned by the Earl of Shrewsbury. The late Lord Ashburton was an ardent yachtsman and owned the *Miranda*.

WILL OF THE LATE MR. THOMAS BRIGHT.

Probate of the will, dated 6th July, 1889, of the late Mr. Thomas Bright, of Greenbank, Rochdale, who died on the 8th of January last, aged seventy-five, and was a younger brother of the late Mr. John Bright, M.P., and a partner in the firm of John Bright and Brothers, has been granted to the sole executor, the testator's son, Mr. Frank John Bright, to whom he devises and bequeaths all his real and personal estate, the personalty being valued at £26,357 2s. 2d.

THE CYPHER LETTERS IN PAMPHLET FORM.

The London correspondent of the *Freeman's Journal* says it is the intention of the Irish party to publish in the form of a pamphlet the cablegrams between Mr. Soames and his American agent.

THE DEATHS ON AN ATLANTIC PASSAGE.

Three steerage passengers of the steamer *Alesia*, which has arrived in New York from the Mediterranean, died from pneumonia during the voyage.—*Reuter*.

MR. GLADSTONE AND THE OLD CATHOLICS.

The *Banner* states that Mr. Gladstone has sent a donation of £10 to Sir Walter Farquhar towards the fund which is now being raised to endow an Old Catholic bishopric in Austria as a memorial to Dr. Döllinger. The *Banner* adds that Sir Walter Farquhar has offered to meet all sums up to £1,000 with donations equal to 10 per cent. on the amount given. Sums of any amount, great or small, towards this object will be received by the bankers, Messrs. Herries, Farquhar, and Co., 16, St. James's-street, London.

The cruiser *Undaunted*, Captain Lord Charles Beresford, left Plymouth Sound yesterday afternoon, for the Mediterranean station.

The majority of the pork butchers who have been on strike at Limerick resumed work to-day. Others refused, and the police had to protect the men returning.

It is reported that the cholera has broken out in the province of Thuan, in Tonkin. A number of deaths had occurred among the French troops.

At the Central Criminal Court, this morning, Jessie Bevan, a married woman, was sentenced to ten years penal servitude for the manslaughter of her illegitimate child. The prisoner was the mother of thirteen children.

The next course of Cantor Lectures at the Society of Arts will be by Prof. A. H. Church, on "Some Considerations concerning Colour and Colouring." The first will be given on the 17th inst., the following lectures on the two succeeding Mondays

DISASTROUS RAILWAY ACCIDENT IN AMERICA

TEN PERSONS KILLED AND MANY INJURED.

A Central News telegram from New York to-day says :—A terrible accident occurred yesterday to the Lake Shore passenger train from Chicago just to the west of Buffalo. At the commencement of a steep grade on the railway the first part of the train, consisting of several coaches and the engine, suddenly parted owing to some accident from the rear portion, which was made up chiefly of Pullman cars. Before any effort could be made to stop its further progress, the rear portion rushed along the line, every moment accelerating its speed, until it dashed into the forward coaches, which were all full of passengers. Ten persons were killed in the collision, and many of severe injuries.

A later Central News telegram from New York says:—The train was running at a high speed to make up for time lost at an earlier part of the journey. The separation seems to have arisen from a defect in one of the couplings. The conductor made the fatal mistake of signalling to stop the forward section, thus allowing the rear part to overtake it. The injured number twenty-five, and some of these are not likely to recover. The number killed is now known not to exceed seven. They are Mr. and Mrs. Stewart, of Rochester, Mrs. Baucus, of Saratoga, a negro-porter named Swan, and three others not yet identified.

Reuter gives the following version of the accident :—An accident, attended with loss of life, occurred yesterday near Hamburg to a train on the Lake Shore Railway, due to arrive at Buffalo at ten minutes past nine last night. While running at a high rate of speed in order to make up time, the back portion of the train, which included five Pullman cars, broke away and crashed into the front portion of the train, consisting of the engine and three carriages, which telescoped into each other. Seven persons were killed and fifteen injured.

MR. BAIRD AND THE PELICAN CLUB.—JUDGMENT.

Mr. Justice Stirling, in the Chancery Division to-day, gave judgment on the application of Mr. Baird to restrain the committee of the Pelican Club from excluding him. He said it was well-settled law that the court would not re-try the decision of a club committee, and that its interference was limited to an inquiry whether the committee had acted in accordance with the rules *bonâ fide* and in accordance with natural justice. After surveying the history of the club from 1887, he came to the conclusion that the Committee had not been regularly elected. In consequence of some unseemly proceedings at the Smith-Slavin fight last December an inquiry was held, and allegations were made against Mr. Baird, suggesting that he hired roughs, a charge upon which he was acquitted, and also with regard to his bad language at the ringside towards Slavin. The committee found that Mr. Baird had used bad language, and passed a resolution recording this decision, and if they had then excluded him from the club it would have been other than *bonâ fide*. However, the decision of the Committee did not find favour with the members, and on the 8th of January, the club having declared in favour of what was practically a new trial, the committee resigned, but were subsequently re-elected, and, giving effect to the feeling in the club, called on Mr. Baird to resign. On these facts he (the judge) came to the conclusion that the committee was not duly elected, therefore Mr. Baird was not bound by its decision. He also found that the decision to exclude Mr. Baird was not the unbiassed judgment of the Committee, but the club was a proprietary one, in which the plaintiff had no right of property, and therefore the court could make no order on his application. The plaintiff gave notice of appeal.

THE TRUSTEE SAVINGS BANKS BILL.

Copies of a bill, backed by Sir Albert Rollit, Viscount Curzon, Sir E. Birkbeck, Sir John Puleston, and Mr. Haldane, to amend the law relating to trustee savings banks, were issued to the House of Commons to-day. The bill provides that there shall be a board of inspection constituted of representatives of the trustee savings banks at Belfast, Bloomsbury, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Hull, Leeds, Leigh, Liverpool, Manchester, Preston, Sheffield, and South Shields, and of such other trustee savings banks as may from time to time be named by a resolution of at least two-thirds of the members of the board of inspection. The representative of each bank must be a bank manager for the time being, or if there is no regular chairman, or he is unwilling to serve, then some other of the trustees to be appointed by the majority of their board. Provision is made for the summoning of the first meeting. A majority of the members are to retire every two years, and their places are to be filled up within three months by members elected by the votes of trustee savings banks, each bank voting by the voice of a majority of its trustees in general meeting, and having one vote for every one hundred thousand pounds, or fraction thereof, of the bank's funds. The board is to be a body corporate, by the name of the Board of Inspection of Trustee Savings Banks, and the salaries of inspectors, officers, and clerks appointed by the board, and all expenses, including actual travelling expenses of the members, are to be paid by the banks rateably in proportion to the amount of funds held by them respectively. The board is to meet at least once in every three months, and every year a full report of proceedings, receipts, and expenditure is to be laid before both Houses of Parliament. Provision is also made by the bill to prevent loss by reason of the fraudulent act on the part of officers of savings banks generally, and security is to be given to the amount of £4,000 downwards, and the Act is to be cited as the Trustee Savings Bank Act, 1890.

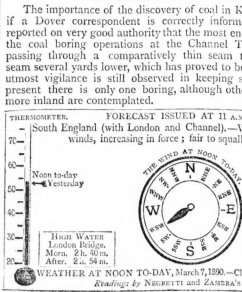
THE HOME OF REST FOR HORSES.

The Earl of Yarborough presided yesterday afternoon over the annual general meeting of the Home of Rest for Horses, which was held at the Marlborough Rooms, Regent-street. The committee, in presenting the report for the years 1888 and 1889 to the meeting, said that the Home might now be considered to have been placed on a permanent footing, the support received during the past two years being nearly double that accorded to the institution during its earlier days. He gave the reasons for moving the Home first from Mr. South's farm at Norsden to Shoreham, upon that gentleman's retirement in March, 1889, and afterwards to the larger and more convenient premises at Acton, Sudbury having been found to cause great expense and loss of time to the people whose horses were taken there for treatment. He announced the new arrangement that in future one letter from a subscriber will be all that was necessary for a case to be dealt with, and that the society in future will not undertake the treatment of cases which appear likely to require more than six weeks' rest. He expressed deep regret at the retirement of Miss Linde from the committee, and thanks to Mrs. Pinero for the great assistance she has rendered in several special cases. He then moved the adoption of the report. Mr. Sotheran-Murphy seconded, and hoped Miss Linde would return to the committee, for she was, if not exactly the founder of the institution, certainly the prime mover in its inception. The motion was supported by two subscribers and a furniture-mover, who testified to the practical benefits they had received from the home.

Sir Edmund Henderson then moved the re-election of the president (the Duke of Portland), the patronesses, and vice-presidents, and the election of the Duchess of Portland, the Duke of Rutland, the Earl of Yarborough, and Lord Braye to be vice-presidents. This was seconded by General Nuthall, and carried unanimously. The Rev. F. A. Ormsby moved the election of the committee. The chairman then announced that a ball for the benefit of the institution will be held in the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole, on May 29. Among the proment ladies and gentlemen present were Lady Lycett, Lady Nicholson, Lady McKenna, Miss Sandemann, Mr. and Mrs. Pinero, Professor Woodroffe Hill, Mrs. Benson, and Colonel Pope.

THE COAL DISCOVERY AT DOVER.

The importance of the discovery of coal in Kent can hardly be exaggerated, if a Dover correspondent is correctly informed. He telegraphs that it is reported on very good authority that the most encouraging results are attending the coal boring operations at the Channel Tunnel Works, and that after passing through a comparatively thin seam the bore came upon another and larger seam several yards lower, which has proved to be eight feet in thickness. The utmost vigilance is still observed in keeping strangers from the works. At present there is only one boring, although others in a westerly direction and more inland are contemplated.


THERMOMETER.
FORECAST ISSUED AT 11 A.M. TO-DAY.
BAROMETER.
South England (with London and Channel).—Westerly to south-westerly winds, increasing in force ; fair to squally, and some rain.
Noon to-day
Yesterday
Noon to-day
Yesterday
HIGH WATER
London Bridge.
Morn. 2h. 40m.
After. 2h. 54m.
SUN RISES 6h. 34 m.
„ SETS 5h. 48 m.
MOON—Last Qr. 6th, 14th, 4h. 5 m. Mg.
WEATHER AT NOON TO-DAY, March 7, 1890.—Cloudy, unsettled; strong breeze.
Readings by NEGRETTI and ZAMBRA's Instruments.

THE MONEY MARKET

One o'clock.

HOME RAILWAYS BETTER.—FOREIGN STOCKS STEADY.—AMERICANS STILL WEAK.—QUIET BUSINESS.

Short loans are much more easily obtainable than has recently been the case owing to the release of the Treasury Bill money, and 4 per cent. is the top rate that can be secured for this description of borrowing. Some brokers continue to quote 3½ to 3¾ per cent. for the discount of three months' bank paper, but the bulk of the business is put through at 3½ per cent.. or even less.

So far the further reduction in the value of money has had no appreciable effect on Stock Exchange quarters. Business continues of quite a retail character, and values do not move to any appreciable extent. Consols are firm and maintain yesterday's improvement, while in the English railway market there is a little disposition to operate for a rise in prices, the stocks of the heavy lines being especially good. In the Foreign department scarcely anything has been done, and the variations are unimportant. American Railroads are dull in the absence of support. There has been a trifling recovery in Reading shares as well as one or two others, but as a rule the changes are adverse to speculators for the rise. The cutting of rates apparently continues to spread, as according to latest advices from the other side, the railway passenger rate war is extending in the territory westward of the Missouri River and south-eastwards from Kansas City. Trunks and Mexican Railway issues are better, but Mining and Miscellaneous securities are very quiet.

The Home and Colonial Assets and Debenture Corporation (Limited) offer for sale by subscription 2,500,000 dols. Six per Cent. (silver currency) Bonds of the Mexican Government at the price of £130 per bond of 1,000 dollars—the par of which at 37*d.* per Mexican dollar would be 154. This loan consists of bonds which are, or will be, a direct obligation of the Government of Mexico, issued for the construction and equipment of the line of railway from Venadito, in the State of Coahuila, on the line of the Mexican International Railway, through the City of Monterrey, in the State of Nuevo Leon, to Tampico, on the Gulf of Mexico, a distance of about 460 miles. Interest is payable on the bonds half-yearly on December 31st and June 30th. The principal is repayable at par in silver currency in forty years, but redeemable wholly or partially at the option of the Government after the expiration of ten years.

Letters of allotment for the Irredeemable 4½ per cent. Debenture Stock of the United States Debenture Corporation (Limited) has been posted.

An official notice was posted up on the Madrid Exchange yesterday, warning the public that forged bonds of the Exterior Four per Cent. Stock of Series C 1886 have been detected lately. The forged stock is printed on thicker paper, and lacks several noticeable features of the genuine paper. The watermark also is different.

DIVIDENDS.—Bank of Australasia, 12½ per cent. per annum and bonus of 6*s.* per share, together £2 16*s.* per share, with £14,600 carried forward ; Anglo-Australian Bank, 9⅛ *fl.*, or nearly 8 per cent. ; London Bank of Mexico and South Africa, 4*s.* 6*d.* per share and a bonus of 1*s.*, making with the interim dividend 9 per cent. for the year, with £70,000 added to reserve ; Railway Investment Company, 16*s.* per cent. on the Deferred, making 21*s.* for the year ; San Paulo and Rio de Janeiro Railway, 9 per cent., making 8 per cent. for the year ; Chicago Breweries, 6*s.* 2*d.* per share ; Linares Lead Mining Company, 10*s.* per share ; Fortuna Company, 3*s.* 2*d.* per share ; Alamillos Company, 2*s.* per share ; and Jubilee Gold Company, 5 per cent.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—The market opened quiet with a moderate demands. Probable sales 8,000. Futures are one and a half points higher.

The following are the latest changes compared with yesterday's closing :—

HOME RAILWAYS.—*Improved:* South Western ¾, Great Western ¾, North Western and Midland ¼, Caledonian, Great Eastern, Hull and Barnsley, North British Preferred and Deferred ⅛. *Receded:* North Eastern ⅛.

FOREIGN STOCKS.—*Advanced:* French Three per Cents. and Four and a Half per Cents. ¼, Portuguese ⅜, and Egyptian Unified Issued 1-16. *Declined:* Russian ¼, Italian ⅛, Bulgarian ¼, and Peruvian Six per Cents. 1-16.

AMERICAN RAILROADS.—*Rises:* Erie shares, Norfolk and Western Preference, Northern Pacific Preference, and Ohio and Mississippi Ordinary ¼, Philadelphia and Reading and Union Pacific shares ⅜ each. *Falls:* Wabash General Mortgage ½, Central Pacific, Missouri, Kansas, and Texas ¼, Louisville and Nashville, Ontario, and Atlantic Firsts ⅛ each.

CANADIAN AND FOREIGN RAILWAYS.—*Higher :* Grand Trunk First and Second Preference and Guaranteed ¼, the Third Preference ⅜, Mexican Second Preference ¼, the Ordinary ⅜, and Lombardo-Venetian 1-16.

MINES AND MISCELLANEOUS.—*Improved :* Colorado Nitrate ¼, Primitiva Nitrate ¼, Gold Fields of South Africa ¼, Eastman's Ordinary ⅛, Rio Tinto and De Beers 1-16. *Receded :* San Paulo and San Jorge Nitrate ¼, and Rand Union shares ⅛.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares :—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.			Great Western	162⅜	⅝xd	Oregon Gold	8¼ ⅜
Consols(2½)Money	97⅛	⅜xd	Hull and Barnsley.	37½	½	Cape Copper	3¼ ⅛
Do. Account	97⅛	⅜xd	Lanc. and York. ..	121	2	Chinchas	2 ⅛
Do. 1903	99	½xd	North Western	176¾	¾xd	Mason & Barry....	65½ ⅛
New 2½ per Cents.	93¾	⅝xd	South Western	134⅜	⅝½	Rio Tinto	15⅜ ⅛
London Debentures	102¾	¼xd	Manch. and Sheff..	87	9	Rhodes	4⅜ ⅜
India 3½ per Cents.	107¼	¼xd	Do. A	46¾	⅞½	Montana	1¼ ⅜
Do. 4½ p. c. Rn.	71	¾	Metro. Consolidated	75½	6	De Beers	16½ ⅜
Canada Stock	109	1 xd	Do. District ..	29½	30	Griqualand West	5¾ 6
Rs. of Canada	102	½xd	Midland	143¾	¾xd	New Jagersfontein..	1½ ⅝
Met. Bd. Wks. 3½p.c.	111½	12 xd	North Brit. Pref ..	78	½	City and Suburban.	6½ ⅝
Do. 5 p. c. Scrip	102	½	Do. Def.	62½	⅝	Jumper's Gold	6¾ ¾
Birmingham 3½ p. c.	111	11	North Eastern	164½	½	Jubilee	4⅜ ⅛
Leeds 4 per Cents.	115	17	North Stafford	134	15	Salisbury	3¾ ⅛
Liverpool 3½ p. c.	111½	12¾xd	South Eastern	129	31	Salisbury	6¾ ⅛
Manchester 4 p. c.	129	9	Do. Deferred..	103½	¾	Sutherland Reef ..	3½ 4¼
			Taff Vale	79	9	Do. Sm. Exploratn.	19½ 20½
COLONIAL SECURITIES.						Do. New	2 ¼p a
Canada 4 p. c. Reg.	107	9	**FOREIGN RAILWAYS.**			G. F. of Sth. Africa	4 ⅛
Canada 5 p. c. Reg.	109	9	Canada Pacific.....	74¾	5	Exploring Co.	15 16
Cape 4½ p. c. Inscrib	110½	11½	Chic. Mil. and St. Pl.	85	15	Rand Land	9 ⅜
Ceylon 4 p. c. Ins	110½	11½	Chic. Mil. and St. Pl.	68½	¾	Southern Land	⅞ 1
Mauritius 4 p. c. Ins.	107	8	Denver & R. Grande	15¾	16½	Transvaal Land	⅜ ½pm
Natal 4 p. c. C.1919	110	13 xd	Da. Preference	47½	48¼		
N.S. Wales Ins 1935	113	15	Illinois Cent.	117	18	**TELEGRAPH & TELEPHONE**	
„ 3½ 1924....	103	4 xd	Lake Shore	107½	8	Anglo-American ..	49 50
New Zealand 5 p. c. Cons.	107	8	Louis & Nash	86¾	⅝	Do. Preferred ..	82½ 3½
Queensland 4½ p. c. Ins.	110	11	Miss. Kan. & Texas	20½	Xas. pd.	Brazilian Submarine	12½ ⅞
S. Austn. 4 p.c. Reg.	109	10	N.Y. Central Shares	103½	¾	Direct Unite d States	10 ⅛
Victoria 4 p.c. of 1885	111½	12½	New York Ontario	17½	18¼	Eastern	15½ 16¼
W. Australia 4 p. c. Ins	109	11	N. Y. Erie Shares	29¾	6⅝	Da. Extension ..	13¾ 14
			Do. Second Mort.	103½	¾	Globe Telegraph	8½ ⅝
FOREIGN STOCKS.			Norfolk & West. Pref	68¾	⅜	National Electric ..	5¾ ⅞
Argentine 5½ Loan 1887	77½	2½xd	N.Y., P. & O. Ist M.	33¾	¾		
Do. 5½ p.c. Funds	60	2	North Pacific Pref.	75	½	**OMNIBUS AND TRAM**	
Do. Cedulas A ..	43½	4½	Ohio & Mississippi	20¾	1¼	Lon. Gen. Om.	129 90 xd
Do. „ B	41½	2½	Pennsylvania Sh...	56½	⅝	London Road Car.	5 ¾xd
Austrian Gold	95	⅞	Phil & Read Sh..	18¾	19¾	London Street	111½ 13½
„ Silver..	74	6	Union Pacific Sh...	39½	⅝	London Tramways.	14½ 15½
Brazilian 4½ 1889..	85½	6½	Wabash Preferred..	30½	1	North Metropolitan	133¼ ⅜
Do. 1889 (fully pd)	85¾	6¾	Do. Gen. Mort.	68¾	9½		
Do. 4 per Cent. ..	12	11 dis	Grand Trunk Ord...	10¾	⅞	**WATERWORKS.**	
B. Ayres 6 p.c. 1868	93	101	Do. First Pref. ..	73	¼	Chelsea Waterw's.	260 5
„ Cedulas 4	35½	4½	Do. Second Pref.	49¾	⅜	East London	211 15
„ „	89	90	Do. Third Pref.	27½	⅜	Grand Junction....	122 7
Bulgarian	89	9	Do. Guaranteed ..	77¾	⅜	Kent	271 6
Chilian 4½ p.c. 1339	103	4	Mexican Ordinary	20½	⅜	Lambeth	234 6
Costa Rica A	99	2	Do. First Pref...	126½	¾	New River, New ..	300 6
„ B	97	9	Ob. do. 2nd Pref.	72	½	Sthwk & Vxhall..	104 9
Ecuador, New	23¾	4¾	Mexican Central ..	19½	¾	Southwark	10 ⅜
Egypt. State Dom.	103¼	⅛	Mexican National	6⅝	7	West Middlesex ..	260 5
Egypt. Preference	104	⅛	Lombardo-Venetian	11⅜	⅜		
Do. Daira Sanian	84	½	Nitrate Railway ..	17	½	**GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT**	
French 3 p.c. Rentes	87¼	¼	Tehuá	4¼	5¼	Gaslight & Coke A	214 9
Do. 4½ p.c. Rentes	104½	⅜	B. Ayres & Rosario	164	8	Imp. Continental..	211 ⅜
Greek 5 p. c. 1881-4.	90¼	¾	Do. Great Southern	104	7	South Metropolitan	278 85 xa
Do. 4 p. c. Mon.	74½	5½	Central Argentine..	154	7	Do. B	221 6 xd
Hung. Gold Rentes	96½	¾	S. Paulo (Braz.) ..	91	9	Do. C	220 6 xd
„ Paper	89¾	⅝				London Electric ..	2½ ⅜
Mexican 6 p.c. 1888.	99	½	**BANKS.**			Metrpltan Electric	5½ ¼
Peruvian 6 p. c. 1872	16¾	¼	Alliance Bank	141½	15½		
Do. 6 p. c.	17¾	20¼	City Bank	22	3	**MISCELLANEOUS.**	
Portuguese	64⅜	5½	Colonial	50	2	Allsopp's	6¼ 7 xd
Russian 4 p. c. 1889	94	½	Consolidated Bank	13¾	¼	Bell's Asbestos	11¾ 7xd
Spanish 5 p. c.	72⅜	5	Imperial	19½	20½	Guinness and Co...	342½ 5 xd
Do. Small, 1854	72¾	⅜	Imperial Ottoman..	11	5/16 7/16	Hudchles	6½ 7
Conv. A	39¾	40¼	London and County	83	90	Maxim-Nordenfelt.	2¼ ⅜
Do. B	24¼	¾	Lloyds	26½	7½	Bryant and May ..	15¾ ⅜
Do. D	37¾	38½	Lon. and Westmtr.	69	71	Eastman's Gold	16½ ⅜
4½ p. c. 1871	97¾	¾	London Joint Stock	39½	40¾	Edmore's Copper..	6¼ ⅜
5 p. c. Defence ..	102	½	Nat. Prov. of Eng.	56	7	Spratt's Patent	7¾ ⅞
5 p. c. Priority ..	97	9	Provincial of Ireland	24	7	Universal Private..	11 15
Uruguay Unified ..	72¾	3¼	Union of London ..	40½	1½	Primitiva Nitrate ..	14¾ ⅜
Do. 6 p. c. 1888 ..	85¾	6¼xd	National Discount ..	11½	12	Rosario	3 4
Virginia Funded ..	46	7				San Pablo	3¾ 4
U.S. 4½ p. c.	105	6	**TRUSTS.**			San Jorge	5¾ 6
			Fn. & Cl. Gov. Dt.	135	8	San Donato	2¾ 3⅜
BRITISH RAILWAYS.			Gov. Stk. Invst. Dt.	110	14	Tamaragal	2 ⅜
Brighton Ordinary ..	154	6	Lon. and N.Y. Inv.	6¾	7½	Stock Conversion ..	1½ ¾
Do. A	104¾	½	Stock Conversion ..	1½	¾	Pan(D.Stream Ext	125 200
Chatham Ordinary	25½	⅝	South African Gold	5½	¾	Royal Mail Steam	71 4
Do. Preference ..	102¾	9¼	Trns, Exs., & Sec.	6½	7	Hudson's Bay	19¾ 20¾
Caledonian	128½	¼				Suez Canal	90½ 1
Great Eastern	63½	¼	**MINING & LAND.**			E. & W. India Docks	80 ½
Great Northern ..	129	2 xd	Indian Con. Gold	2/6	3/0	Liverpool Nitrate..	3¾ 4
Do. A.....	103	4 xd	Mysore Gold	5¾	6 xd	Do. St. K. Dock	32 4

"Pall Mall Gazette" Office.

FRIDAY MORNING.

Stamford came more prominently before the public than is its wont (except at election time) two and a half years ago, in reference to the question of the right of public meeting of the Salvation Army. Two hours and a half away from London, Stamford is just fifty years behind the times. "Hustling" in the American sense is quite unknown there. It is a "Sleepy Hollow," with an air of quietude almost painful in its intensity. The town is planted at the joining-point of three counties, and is full of all sorts of antiquities—buildings, churches, and so forth—enough to interest the antiquarian for a month. The thing one most misses in Stamford is the hurrying crowd that throbs along—say, the Strand—hour after hour. No one ever seems to hurry in Stamford. In fact, the normal state of the place is stupor—repose that seems almost stagnation.

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Mr. William Shepherd Allen, who has been adopted as the Unionist candidate for Stoke-upon-Trent, is not so well known outside the constituency as his opponent, Mr. Leveson-Gower. Mr. Allen has, however, already had considerable experience of parliamentary life, having represented the ancient borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme from 1865 until the General Election of 1885. He is a Wesleyan, and has frequently occupied the pulpits of that denomination as a local preacher. Mr. Allen was educated at Wadham College, Oxford. A man of means, he has a fine country residence not far from Stoke. He is of a genial, benevolent, and hospitable turn of mind, well known and respected throughout North Staffordshire, and his local connections in addition to this make him a strong candidate for the constituency for which he has been brought forward.

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He will, perhaps, be remembered in London as the mover, some time ago, at a shareholders' meeting of the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway, of a resolution against the continuance of Sunday excursion trains, which was rejected. Mr. Allen has devoted much of his leisure to foreign travel, and is now Zealand at the present moment. He is a fluent platform speaker, but his delivery has a curious intonation which somewhat smacks of the reading-desk or the pulpit. When member for Newcastle-under-Lyme, he was in frequent request to open bazaars and preside at denominational meetings, at which he was always very popular.

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Mr. Allen is true to his character as an "absent" man. When he was in Parliament he contrived to be pretty generally absent at the time the division-bell rang—his absences during the last few years he sat for Newcastle-under-Lyme amounting to some eighty-five per cent.—and now he is absent from England, though a candidate for Stoke. The first news he will most likely receive on his return from New Zealand will probably be that Mr. Leveson-Gower has been elected, and his own feeling may be that he might just as well have absented himself a little longer.

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The walls of Stoke-on-Trent are embellished with a gigantic poster, which may seem to many an earnest of a political millennium. It reads: "W. S. Allen, candidate for Stoke-on-Trent. Everybody pleased." Mr. Allen's friends appear to have taken lessons from the eccentric Liberal-Unionist candidate for North St. Pancras.

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Sir Edmund Currie's resignation of his seat on the London School Board will be a very grievous loss to that body. For over thirty years Sir Edmund has been intimately connected with educational work in London, and has been the soul and inspiration of much of the labour that has advanced popular education to the position it now occupies. It is at least a satisfaction to know that his resignation does not mean his loss to the educational movement, but only the transfer of his services to other departments of the work; for the reason of it is that he intends to devote the whole of his time to the establishment of centres of scientific and technical institutes in Folkestone, and to his splendid work in the East-end of London.

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There was a time in the old days when the "Bacons" and the "Bungays" of Paternoster-row asked their patrons, the retail men, once a year to a hobnob either at the Albion, or the London Tavern, or the Freemasons', their object being to expose and sell their new wares, often in an imperfect state. Since then commerce has changed her face. Now the annual trade meeting with the more important firms has died out. But in every community there are men who believe in the mixture of business and good-fellowship. And under the auspices of the Booksellers' Provident Institution, a booksellers' trade dinner is to be held to-morrow night at the Holborn Restaurant.

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The dinner will bring together many old friends who seldom under the new order get a peep at one another. Mr. Charles J. Longman will take the chair. His supporters will be Mr. John Murray, jun., Mr. G. H. Longman, Mr. T. Norton Longman, Mr. R. B. Marston, Mr. F. Daldy, Col. Routledge, Mr. Fisher Unwin, Mr. Edward Stanford, Mr. Herbert Virtue, Mr. Francis Rivington, Mr. Spencer Blackett, Mr. C. Lock, Mr. Lovell Reeve, and Mr. Houlston. Science in publishing will be represented by Mr. Spon, and law by Messrs. Sweet, Maxwell, and Butterworth. Mr. Clowes has promised his presence, so also have Mr. J. C. Nimmo, Mr. David Stott, Mr. J. Vernon Whitaker (of the *Bookseller*). No dinner would be representative without some of the magnates and middlemen of the trade. Mr. Frederick Miles (Simpkin and Co.), Mr. Audry (W. H. Smith and Son's), and Mr. Stoneham may be named among these.

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Then, as second-hand men, there will be Mr. Bernard Quaritch, Mr. Bain, Mr. H. Sotheran, and Mr. Harwood (Bickers). Other well-known faces to appear at the table are those of Mr. Francis (the *Athenæum*), Mr. W. H. Faux (Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's library department), and Mr. Hodgson (the well-known book auctioneer). Among those who write books who will be present are Dr. J. Evans, Mr. H. Rider Haggard, Mr. W. C. Courtney, M. Paul du Chaillu, Mr. Arnold Forster, and Mr. Roberts.

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I see that Mr. G. W. Curtis has been gossipping about Browning in Harper's "Easy Chair." The eagerness and enthusiasm, he says, with which Browning's early work was welcomed in America were most ardent, and the devoted zeal of Mr. Levi Thaxter as a Browning missionary and pioneer forecast the interest from which the Browning societies of later days have sprung. When Matthew Arnold was told, in a small and remote farming village in New England, that there had been a lecture upon Browning in the town a week before, he stopped in amazement, and said: "Well, that is the most surprising and significant fact I have heard in America."

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Touching a personal interview of his own, Mr. Curtis says:—"The most kindly welcome and pleasant chat followed, Browning's gaiety dashing and flashing in, with a sense of profuse and bubbling vitality, glancing at a hundred topics; and when there was some allusion to his 'Sordello,' he asked quickly, with an amused smile, 'Have you read it?' The Easy Chair pleaded that he had not seen it. 'So much the better. Nobody understands it. Don't read it, except in the revised form which is coming.' The revised form has come long ago, and the Easy Chair has read, and probably supposes that he understands. But Thackeray used to say that he did not read Browning because he could not comprehend him, adding, ruefully, 'I have no head above my eyes.'"

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One of the French papers writes, I see, of the Attorney-General as "Sir Phebster." Is this a cross between his real name and the *United Ireland's* nickname for him—Webster and Fibster?

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Very quaint and characteristic is that touch about Prince Bismarck in the experiences of the German working man at Court, which the good fellow has been relating to his admiring townspeople at home. A chance arising of a few words with the great Chancellor, the delighted locksmith seized it by expressing his gratitude to his Majesty for giving the workmen the chance of speaking in the Staatsrath. "I wish his Majesty would give the word for dinner," replied Bismarck, testily; "it is long in coming." We can just imagine the old Reichskanzler, bored and hungry, thinking more on victuals than on *la haute politique*, and supremely oblivious of the fact that for his interlocutor this was a unique moment of his life, and one whose record will be handed down for good or evil to local posterity.

CADBURY'S COCOA is a refined concentration of the strength-sustaining principle of the finest flavouring constituents of the Cocoa-nib. Delicious, nutritious, easily digested, and of great economy in a penny packet yielding fourteen large breakfast cups of perfect Cocoa. It is absolutely pure.

GOVERNMENT DECLARATION ON FREE EDUCATION

MR. CHAMBERLAIN AND THE UNIONISTS TO THE RESCUE.

The Hon. Sidney Herbert, M.P., Junior Lord of the Treasury, has (the *Record* says) addressed the following letter to Mr. G. A. King, of Croydon. Its statement as to the Government intentions in the matter of Assisted Education are definite and significant. Mr. Herbert says:—

I cordially agree with you that it would be most unfair to displace the managers of the Voluntary schools in any scheme for further assisting elementary education.

The sole object of the Government in taking up this question at all is to save and to promote the welfare of the Voluntary schools; and this cardinal point is what brings us into conflict with the Radical schemes of "Free (and Secular) Education."

It is a most important event that Mr. Chamberlain and the Unionists have yielded this point to us, and will go in with us for increasing the grant to all schools alike, of course subject to their efficiency.

I hope that you will gather from what I have said that the protection of the Voluntary school system being our main object, it will not suffer from any proposals that will be made by us.

DETERMINED SUICIDE FROM LONDON BRIDGE.

A SEVEN-POUND WEIGHT TIED TO THE BODY.

Shortly after midnight Inspector Stubbs, of the Thames police force while on duty near London Bridge discerned a black object lying on the abutment of the second arch of the bridge, City side. He directed a man to climb up, and the dead body of a woman was found with her face completely smashed. A rope was discovered fast in the bridge and the body was dropped into a police galley and taken to Guy's Hospital. To the woman's body there was tied a seven-pound weight. There was twopence-halfpenny in her pocket. The description of the deceased which has been issued shows the woman to be about five feet in height and some twenty-eight years of age. She is fair, with dark hair and blue eyes. She was wearing a blue cloth jacket and a black dress. The body lies in the mortuary at Guy's.

"THE DESTITUTE" AT GROSVENOR HOUSE.

The Hon. A. Yorke's concert or variety entertainment—for a Bishop, an actress, and several virtuosi took part in the programme—was a most brilliant affair. The Duke of Westminster's superb rooms—both the large drawing-rooms—were crowded with an audience of fashionably-dressed women and stylish men. The Princess Beatrice sat in the front row, and the names of Mdme. Semon (formerly Miss Raedekher), Nachez, Hollmann the violinist, Mr. Salmond and Miss Norreys, who took part in a capital duologue with Mr. Allen Aynesworth, ensured a programme of unusual excellence. In the middle of the concert the Bishop of Bedford stepped forward and said, as there were no reporters present—his Right Reverend little knew!—perhaps the ladies would carry abroad the information that the Bishop of Bedford's Home for Friendless and Destitute Women was in urgent need of funds. The Home, he said, had been started after the Whitechapel outrages had called attention to that class of wretched women who supplied the notorious Jack with victims. The object was to provide them with a refuge and a resource in honest laundry work. The Bishop, as he did not expect to be reported, was quite off the high horse (happily), and spoke very well, and even pithily—with little hits at the ladies quite like a profane layman—and with the open and avowed intention, as became a cleric under the circumstances, of picking every one's pockets. This was done yesterday to the tune of about £340. What took place upon the platform as regards the music calls for no special remark—the artistes sang and played *con amore*, and there were no encores. But at the close the Hon. A. Yorke came forward to say that Miss Norreys had not yet arrived. In her absence their Royal Highnesses had requested Mr. Yorke to give them a taste of his own quality. Mr. Alec Yorke is widely known, not only as one of the Royal Equerries—a man of genial character, a sincere and warmhearted philanthropist without a touch of affectation or humbug about him—but also as a gifted reciter and humourist of uncommon and spontaneous talent. A burst of applause greeted Mr. Yorke, who gaily stepped on to the stage as to the manner born, and kept the audience in fits of laughter by his consummate imitations of Ellen Terry, Irving, Booth, Fechter, and Sarah Bernhardt. One only had to shut one's eyes and few would have doubted the presence of Ellen herself. The "divine"(!) Sarah's death in "Frou-Frou" was marvellously and delicately "put on," and Irving "was himself again!" As Mr. Alec Yorke is inconceivably unlike any one of the actors he "took off," his brilliant impromptu interlude was a singular feat of histrionic ability; and to say that, immediately after this, when Miss Norreys at last appeared she did not fall flat, is certainly to praise Miss Norreys. Certainly Good Works and Recreation, Church and Stage, Rank and Wealth, and the Friendless and Destitute, were never more happily linked together than yesterday at the Duke of Westminster's, by request of the Hon. A. Yorke. Aristocrats, please copy.

AUSTRALIAN CRICKETERS.—INVITATION FROM INDIA.

It is hoped that the Australian cricketers who are to visit this country during the approaching season may be induced to call at Bombay on the return voyage, and play one or two matches in the capital of the Western Presidency. That distinguished player, Lord Harris, is personally desirous that they should do so, and if our colonial cousins are able to accept the invitation that will in due course be sent to them, they may be certain of an enthusiastic welcome, from the new Governor down to the youngest member of the local Gymkhana. Bombay is famous among Indian cities for the ardour of its devotion to cricket. Everybody plays there—Parsees, Mussulmans, Hindoos, Hebrews and Englishmen. It was in Bombay, at the hands of a Zorastrian eleven, that Mr. Vernon's picked team suffered its first, and we believe only, defeat throughout its recent Eastern tour.

A SHILLING "BROWNING."

Soon after Mr. Browning's death, a memorial was prepared by Mr. Frederick Rogers, of Toynbee Hall, for presentation to the poet's son, asking for the issue of one or two shilling volumes, containing such of the shorter poems as might best illustrate the special characteristics of his father's genius and teaching. Copies of the memorial were placed in the various class rooms of the London Society for the Extension of University Teaching, in the Working Men's College, in Toynbee Hall, and other centres of educational work. A memorial in similar character was prepared by Mr. Edward S. Pearson, of the Midland Institute, Birmingham. Mr. Robert Barrett Browning has informed the memorialists that he is in no way opposed to their wishes, and that a shilling selection of his father's poems may be looked for within a reasonable time.

A GOLD MEDAL FOR A PLUCKY ENGINE DRIVER.

M. Yves Guyot has just presided at a banquet at Chartres given in honour of Moulin, the engine driver who had by his courage and coolness averted a terrible collision in 1887. The Minister for Public Works presented Moulin with a gold medal.

MR. GLADSTONE GIVES AN AXE TO AN ADMIRER.

Mr. Gladstone has given Mr. Eugene Field, the American poet and journalist, who is now in England, one of the axes with which he has hewn down several of the fine Hawarden trees.

CANADIAN CLUES TO THE GOUFFE MURDERER.

Le Monde (Montreal) says that the French detectives are on the track of Eyraud, the murderer of Gouffé. They have discovered the jeweller in Montreal with whom Eyraud left Gouffé's diamond ring in order to have the stones set in earrings for Gabrielle Bompart. They say that they have succeeded in tracing Eyraud to the Richelieu Hotel, where he stayed two weeks with Gabrielle as father and daughter; that he left for California, and returned here by himself. As soon as Gabrielle's confession was made he left. They believe he is not far from Montreal, and are confident of his capture.

A BOOK CANVASSER HEIR TO £250,000.

Daniel D. Blake, a book canvasser in the employ of a Boston house, has (says a telegram to the *New York Herald*) received notification that he is the sole heir to the estate of the late Sir Henry Blake, of Norfolk, England, and that £250,000 is at his disposal. Mr. Blake will sail for England in May. Sir Henry died about 1876, leaving a will which bequeathed the entire property to his only male blood heir on the Blake side. The document stated that the heir was somewhere in America. Some years ago Mr. Blake was visited by the agent of a London law firm having charge of the estate, and was questioned as to his antecedents, but for some cause or other the matter has remained unsettled till now.

READERS LEAVING HOME TEMPORARILY can have the PALL MALL GAZETTE forwarded at the following rates:—Two weeks, 1s. 6d.; four weeks, 3s. SATURDAY'S SPECIAL EDITION posted in time for delivery in the COUNTRY on SUNDAY MORNING, forwarded for 3s. 6d. per annum. Address, The Publisher, *Pall Mall Gazette* Office, Northumberland-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHELSEA BARRACKS.

THE GUARDS' BURLESQUE.

Once more have the Guards collected their histrionic resources and rung up the act-drop in their commodious theatre at Chelsea Barracks. As in previous years, the stage-struck *militaires* have relied upon the attractions of burlesque and its important elements of song and dance. However, they have not on this occasion had a piece specially written for them, but have contented themselves with Henry J. Byron's old Gaiety favourite, "Fra Diavolo," carefully and appropriately brought up to date by Mr. W. Yardley. At the opening performance last night "society" did not muster particularly strong. Possibly most of the usual first-night patrons were tempted to wait until next Tuesday, when the presence of the Prince and Princess of Wales will confer an additional distinction upon the "show" and its surroundings. But the audience last evening was by no means lacking in that kind of enthusiasm which is generally associated with the Chelsea "annuals," for they eagerly grasped at every possible point and bestowed unlimited approval upon all the members of the company. Still, for all this evidence of good will and appreciation, it cannot be said that the Guards' "Fra Diavolo" comes within even measurable distance of the productions of former years, such as "Faust and Marguerite," and "Ivanhoe." One cannot find any fault with Mr. Yardley's revision of the piece, nor with the music which Mr. Edward Solomon has composed and arranged in his usual felicitous vein. No! it is the company which compares unfavourably with those of former years. The volatile Mr. George Nugent, who unfortunately happens to be quartered on the other side of the Irish Channel, has no successor who at all approaches him in his own particular line of business; and at the same time an amateur young lady of evidently small experience is but a poor substitute for the fascinating Kate Vaughan. The Guards' authorities have not acted wisely in discarding professional assistance so far as the female portion of the cast is concerned. In "Ivanhoe" there was certainly nothing to complain of in this respect. But now—with all the desire in the world to give praise where praise is due—it would be impossible to commend with any degree of sincerity the immature and often clumsy Terpsichorean efforts of the ladies who have volunteered their assistance at Chelsea this year. Mr. George Macdonald in the part of Beppo shows that he possesses a certain amount of comic power, but his work lacks variety and originality. Captain F. C. Ricardo grapples fairly successfully with the character of Fra Diavolo, both his singing and his acting being full of ease and expression. Mr. H. Compton Roberts, who did so well last year, is not suited in the minor rôle of Matteo, but Sir Augustus Welby might with advantage have been afforded a few more opportunities as Sir Simpleton Simon. Colonel H. Ricardo and the Hon. R. Somerset are useful, if somewhat amateurish, in their respective parts. One of the best features in the whole performance is the agile and effective dancing of Corporal Christian, who possesses a remarkably elastic pair of legs.

SIR D. PROBYN'S INTERVIEW WITH THE PREMIER.

A good deal of surprise (writes the London correspondent of the *Leeds Mercury*) exists in regard to the continued silence of Sir Dighton Probyn about his interview with Lord Salisbury. The Attorney-General last Friday read a statement from Sir Dighton Probyn, in which he denied that he communicated directly or indirectly with Lord A. Somerset. This, however, does not meet the whole difficulty. The question is whether after seeing Lord Salisbury Sir Dighton Probyn spoke of the interview to any one, and above all whether he mentioned that there was a certain amount of evidence against Lord A. Somerset. If he incidentally referred to the matter in conversation, the news may have been conveyed to the party chiefly concerned. The general impression now is that no serious imputation rests on Lord Salisbury, but that the question has not yet been cleared up.

5,000 BRICKMAKERS THROWN OUT OF WORK.

The brickfields at Sittingbourne, Kent, were closed by the masters this morning. This throws about 5,000 hands out of employment.

SILVER IN VOLCANO ASH.

In a paper read before the Royal Society yesterday, Mr. J. W. Mallett, of the University of Virginia, described the occurrence in small quantities of silver in the ash from the recent eruption of the volcano Tunguragua, in the Andes of Iguador. The first instances of traces of silver being noticed in volcanic ash was in the eruption of Cotopaxi, in 1885. Tunguragua is 16,500 feet in height, and about sixty miles south of Cotopaxi. The ash is, apparently, the débris of trachytic andesite, and the silver contained in it amounts to rather more than a quarter of a troy ounce per ordinary ton.

THE SENTINEL AND PRINCE HENRY.

When at Gibraltar Prince Henry climbed the hill, and on approaching the summit at a certain point found himself stopped by a sentinel with "No road this way!" Prince Henry told the man that he only wanted to go to the bow of the precipice, so as to see the water on the other side. "No thoroughfare!" replied the sentinel. "But I am the commander of the *Irene*," said Prince Henry. "All the same; no thoroughfare!" insisted the soldier. "But I am a Prussian Prince," continued the commander of the *Irene*. "No thoroughfare!" obdurately replied the sentinel, and Prince Henry abandoned the undertaking.

TO WOMEN WORKERS OF ALL TRADES.

Mrs. Annie Taylor asks us to publish the following:—A union is now being formed to forward the interests of female workers in all trades. The alarming indifference shown towards the wrongs of our sex by the Labour representatives in the Legislature has compelled us at last to stand upon our defence. We have been too long the down-trodden of the world, therefore we ask all those who would respect something of the sunny side of life to join the Union. The terms are—entrance fee, 2*d.*, and a weekly subscription of 1*d.* Join at once, and by the strength of our numbers, by the strength of our unity and organization, and by the strength of the justice of our cause break down the tyranny under which we have suffered too long. All communications to be addressed to Annie Taylor, General Secretary, "The Woman's Union," Gracechurch Cocoa Rooms, 63, Aldersgate-street, City, E.C.

A SOCIETY FOR SMUGGLING CHINAMEN.

A Dalziel's telegram from Port Huron, Michigan, says:—A Treasury official has discovered the existence of a society for smuggling Chinamen from Canada into the States, in contravention of the law restricting Chinese immigration. Four of the members have been arrested.

THE RUSKIN MUSEUM AT SHEFFIELD.

At a meeting of the committee of this Museum yesterday, it was decided that the Museum shall be closed on the 8th inst., preparatory to its removal to Hillsbro' Hall, a mansion in the suburbs of the town, which was purchased some time ago by the corporation. It will be formally opened there on the 13th April. The Earl of Carlisle will perform the opening ceremony.

MR. DILLON'S HEALTH.

Intelligence has been received that Mr. Dillon's health has been greatly improved by his visit to Australia and America. He will return to Ireland a stronger man physically than he has ever been before, and will be ready, should Mr. Parnell's health prove unequal to the strain of public life, to take his place.

THE LORD RECTORSHIP OF GLASGOW UNIVERSITY.

At a joint meeting of Glasgow University Liberal-Unionist and Conservative Clubs held last night, it was announced that Mr. A. J. Balfour, Chief Secretary for Ireland, had consented to stand for the Lord Rectorship of the University, on the expiry of Lord Lytton's term of office in November. It is stated, though not authoritatively, that Mr. John Morley will be the Gladstonian candidate.

THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.

The forty-first annual report of the Prudential Assurance Company (Limited) shows that in the ordinary branch the number of policies issued during the year was 43,792, assuring £4,433,834 and producing a new annual premium income of £253,485. The premiums received were £904,915, an increase of £186,067 over 1888. The claims amounted to £213,262. In the industrial branch the premiums received were £3,336,742, an increase of £80,396. The claims amounted to £1,285,409. The number of policies in 150,557, and 585 endowment assurances matured. The number of policies in force was 8,518,619; the average duration continues to increase, and now, it was stated, exceeds six and a quarter years. The total assets were raised during the year from £9,302,007 to £10,946,156.

Bord's Pianos.—28 per cent. discount for cash, or 15*s.* per month (Second-hand, 10*s.* 6*d.* per month on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 48, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE FUTURE OF THE LABOUR PARTY.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—I am going away for six months, and before going I want to answer, through your columns, the many people who have lately written to me about the Labour party. It dates from the Deptford election, two years ago, and its programme is the one which so long remained a dead letter on the back sheet of the little Socialist paper *Justice*. While most Socialists were vainly spending their breath in preaching violence, a few of them determined to work solely in a parliamentary direction. Mr. H. H. Champion was the first to come forward, and say, "If we can get what we want through Parliament, it is folly to wave the red flag in Trafalgar-square." He put his words into practice at Deptford, and since then the Labour party has grown rapidly both in England and Scotland. Almost all of these Socialists now declare they belong to the Labour party, although they do not accept any leaders at present and are split up into the Labour Leagues, Labour Associations, and Labour Federations. Several of the best known Socialists, Mr. Cuninghame Graham, Mr. John Burns, and Mr. Keir Hardie, have declared their intention of coming forward as Labour candidates at the next General Election. They will form the nucleus of a Political Labour Party, which will come to stay when once it sets its foot in the House of Commons. Any one who doubts the truth of my statements has but to inquire what took place in West Ham when Mr. Keir Hardie addressed the men there a few weeks ago, with a view to representing them in Parliament. He explained to them the Labour Question; and the men listened to him as if life, or death, depended upon it. He did not speak of Ireland, or touch upon foreign politics; he confined himself to the programme of the working man; and he said if he were sent to Parliament he would fight the labour battle there, turning a deaf ear to both Conservatives and Liberals, unless they were willing to help on Labour politics.

I do not want to predict the future of the labour party, but I think that all earnest men would do well to pay attention to it. This is my advice to my numerous correspondents. If any one had prophesied a year ago that the dockers would solve the East-end problem, people would have said, "Can any good come out of the Nazareth?" Just as the dockers won their battle, so will the working-men win their seats in Parliament, and when there they will get what they want—namely, the programme that has so long been a dead letter on the back sheet of *Justice*. I have great faith in the leaders. They are the heroes of Trafalgar-square grown older and wiser. I believe that they will work on, as they have done until the present, independently of either political party. We are a nation of shopkeepers, consequently we shall always hear that money is being taken here, or there, that this Liberal or that Tory agent has the Labour Party in tow, until the party is strong enough to assert its independence. It may be predicted that the Labour party will not be the party of the men who will lead the Labour Party are those who led the Dockers' Strike, together with the leaders of the Scottish Parliamentary Labour Party. For two years I have watched these men, and I have seen them keep on their way independently. Trade unions are well, but they cannot do the work that has to be done, they can only move in the right direction. The battle must be fought in Parliament. Let us then hope to see at the helm of the Labour Party the brave and honourable men, the trusted leaders of the people, the heroes of Trafalgar-square *grown older*.—I am, &c., MARGARET G. HARKNESS.

45, *Great Russell-street, W.C., March* 2.

THE MEMORIAL TO THE LATE LORD FARNBOROUGH

SPEECHES BY THE SPEAKER, MR. GLADSTONE, AND MR. W. H. SMITH.

A bust of the late Lord Farnborough, better known as Sir Thomas Erskine May, for many years Chief Clerk to the House of Commons, was unveiled by the Speaker in the House of Commons library yesterday. The bust is the work of Mr. Bruce Joy, and was rightly described by Mr. Peel as a "speaking likeness." It has been completed from half a dozen photographs, the sculptor never having met his "subject" alive. A considerable number of members were present in the afternoon, and the assembly included several ladies. Among officials present were Mr. Richard Palgrave, the clerk of the House, and the author of a recent "appreciation" of Oliver Cromwell, and Mr. Jenkinson, another clerk at the table. The present Sergeant-at-Arms was there; as also was a predecessor in the person of Lord Charles Russell. The members present included Mr. Cecil Raikes, the Postmaster-General, Mr. Whitbread, and Lord Hamilton, Mr. Heneage, Sir Charles Forster, Mr. T. W. Russell, Lord E. Cavendish, and Sir John Colomb. The Duke of Bedford, Mr. G. W. E. Russell, and Kaneko, the Secretary to the Privy Council of Japan, were also present. A hush fell upon the assembly as Mr. Gladstone, accompanied by Mr. Arnold Morley, entered the room. Mr. W. H. Smith was already there. Shortly afterwards the Speaker and Mrs. Peel arrived, and the ceremony was at once commenced.

The Speaker, before unveiling the bust, said that the library of the House of Commons was a fitting place for the bust of Sir Erskine May to be placed, for in the library there would remain records of his literary work, and above all the work by which he would most be known—his work on the practice and proceedings of Parliament. The work he had not only gone into the high metres of constitutional law; he had not only laid down the limitations of privilege on the one side, and of prerogative on the other; but he had laid down the principles which must underlie the rules which regulate proceedings in Parliament. He had for ever indicated the limits and the safeguards of freedom of debate in the freest assembly in the world. (Hear, hear.) He might dwell upon Sir Erskine May's kindly and genial nature, upon his wide and extensive knowledge, and upon other personal traits. These all would pass away: they would only be left as traditions; but what would be left of him would be the enduring record of an honourable life, and a service of labour in the House of Commons. He (the Speaker) remembered once being in the Trinity library at Cambridge, and was told by one of the authorities there of the scene of an event which happened in that library. They might remember that in that glorious library were specimens of the highest art of the sculptor, and before one of these—the work of the great Roubilliac—an American gentleman was for a long time observed in an earnest and attentive pose. At last an attendant came up to him and said, "You seem to be attracted by the bust!" "Hush!" replied the American, "it is about to speak." He thought they would all agree that in the bust he was about to unveil the hand of the artist had managed somehow to stamp upon the marble an expression of the spirit and intellect of his subject. He hoped that all who read Sir Thomas May's books in the library would turn from the printed page to the bust, and recognize the merits of one who was a distinguished servant of the Queen, of one who was devoted to the interests of the House of Commons, and prominent in its service. (Hear, hear.)

The bust was then disclosed. There was a whispered colloquy between Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Smith, after which Mr. Gladstone rose to offer his tribute of praise to the memory of the late Chief Clerk.

The right hon. gentleman, having complimented the Speaker upon the way in which he had discharged the duty which devolved upon him, said that independently of Sir Erskine May's public character, he rejoiced to have the opportunity of standing with what, in these days, was a rare distinction, he looked upon him as a private personal friend. In his public character he stood without a parallel. His services were not even confined to England—their effect must pass throughout the civilized world. Even if he had never produced his great and superlative work on the proceedings of Parliament, another work of his—his Parliamentary History of England—would have entitled him to honour even among the greatest of constitutional writers. There was no part of his being supplanted. The time would never arrive when the name of Sir Erskine May would cease to be associated with the name of the House of Commons. (Applause.)

"I cannot add anything to the eloquent words which have fallen from Mr. Gladstone," remarked Mr. W. H. Smith. He pointed out, however, that Sir Erskine May was noteworthy for the great care and concern with which he instructed the young member of Parliament in the usages, orders, and privileges of the House. Sir Erskine felt that the House of Commons must live in the affections of the people of England.

A few words from Lord Charles Russell—a sometime Serjeant-at-Arms—brought the ceremony to a close.

THE LADY COUNTY COUNCILLORS.

Mr. W. H. Smith, answering Commander Bethell in the Commons last night said it was true that two ladies were members of and sat upon the London County Council. Their right to sit there was a question of law which it was not the duty of the Government to determine. The action of these ladies would, he understood, form the subject of legal proceedings. Their presence on the Council in no way affected the legal constitution of the Council as a whole, but disqualified persons laid themselves open to penalties.

CARLISLE ACCIDENT AND LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN BRAKES.

Among the questions in the House of Commons last night was one by Colonel Hambro, who asked the President of the Board of Trade if the brakes in use on the London and North Western Railway are of a description that are liable to become useless when there are a few degrees of frost, if the railway company is expected to have sufficient hand-brake power to each train to stop it if the patent brake fails to act, and if a similar accident to the one which happened at Carlisle on Tuesday morning happened about eighteen months ago at the same place.

Mr. Channing supplemented the question by inquiring whether the Department of the Board of Trade had issued any order as to continuous brakes being instantaneous; if so, what were that terms of the order.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach said no order had yet been made, but he was in communication about it. As the question of the hon. and gallant member was only put on the paper that morning he had not had time to communicate with the company on the subject.

THE STEEL FOR THE FORTH BRIDGE.

The supply of the quantity of steel required for the construction of the Forth Bridge formed the subject of the case which engaged the attention of the House of Lords Appeal Court yesterday. The appellants were Messrs. Tancred, Arrol, and Co., contractors of the Forth Bridge, and the respondents the Steel Company of Scotland (Limited), Glasgow. The dispute arose upon the construction of the contract between the parties. The Steel Company contended that they were entitled to supply, and the contractors bound to accept from them the whole of the steel required for the superstructure of the bridge. The contractors, on the other hand, maintained that they were only entitled to accept 20,000 tons of steel more or less, which expression might mean 5 per cent or five per cent either way. The Steel Company, who had only delivered 26,230 tons (the remaining quantity required having been obtained from other sources), initiated the proceedings by bringing an action for breach of contract and damages against the contractors, and the court below decided in their favour. The case has not concluded, but their lordships have intimated a strong opinion in support of that decision.

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For Freight, Passage, Insurance, &c., apply at Arctic Friars, E.C., and 4, Pall-mall East, S.W.; or to GELLATLY, HANKEY, SEWELL, and CO., Albert-square, Manchester; 81, Pall-mall, and Dock House, Billiter-street.

SPECIAL PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS.

3 LINES 1/-
3 INSERTIONS 2/6
Beyond 6 Lines, 6d. per Line per Insertion.
These small prepaid Advertisements will be run as rates in the *Pall Mall Budget*, the Weekly Edition of the *Pall Mall Gazette*.
NOTE.—Each line averages about Seven words.

HOUSES, &c., to be LET or SOLD.

TO LET.—Houses, Villas, Mansions, Chambers (business and residential), Apartments (furnished or unfurnished), charmingly situated, all replete with modern conveniences, but many quite unfit for habitation in consequence of the dirty condition in which they have been left by the previous tenants, free use of one of the boilers arising therefrom proving a fruitful source of plague, misery, and enormous doctors' bills to their occupiers. To remedy this, Hudson's Soap is invaluable as a purifying agent. Hudson's will rapidly transform the dirtiest house into a perfectly comfortable abode; and if the water used with Hudson's Soap in the scrubbing and pail-cleaning is poured down the waste-closets and sinks, the pans, pipes, &c., belonging thereto, will be thoroughly purified and cleansed. For ordinary Disinfectants claim to destroy effluvia only, and many of them simply substitute an odour for a bad one; but the purifying properties of Hudson's Soap removes the danger of sore throats, fevers, and low diseases. Hudson's Soap is popular the world over for all washing, scouring, and cleansing purposes. Hudson's is a pure, Dry Soap, in fine powder, and dissolves instantly in hot, cold, or cold water, and is excellent for all purposes where ordinary soap is objectionable, washing clothes, plates, dishes, knives, forks, saucepans, &c., as it leaves no soapy residue to injure the hands. Ask for the pale or the regular daily use of Hudson's promotes purity, health, and satisfaction. In 1 lb., 1½ lb., and 3½ lb. packets.

APARTMENTS to be LET.

BOARD and RESIDENCE; 124, Cromwell-road, South Kensington.—Terms moderate. Well-aired beds and every comfort and attention, at moderate terms.

"HINDHEAD" BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT. Fine district, 700 ft. above sea level. Terms, 2½ guineas per week; Day, Week, or Permanency.—Proprietress, Miss Lea, "Hindhead," Haslemere, Surrey.

OFFICES to be let in newly erected premises.—Apply 324, Strand.

MISCELLANEOUS.

EXTEMPORE SPEAKING (Oratory). Professor GOWER, M.A. (member University Senate), gives JUNIOR CLASSES for acquiring fluency in the expression of ideas and fluent delivery.—95, TALBOT-ROAD, BAYSWATER, W.

KNOW THYSELF.—Character and Disposition described from Handwriting. Thirteen stamps. Professor, 2, Brook-terrace, Queen's-road, Battersea. Established 1867.

USED POSTAGE STAMPS WANTED.—BLUETT and Co., 5, Fish monger-alley, London, E.C., pay the highest price for Collections and Accumulations. Loose or in packets. The old stamps of Australia, North America, and the West Indies especially wanted.

STAMPS! STAMPS! STAMPS!—PALMER'S BAZAAR, Kensington, buys, sells, and exchange with Palmer, who agitated Parliament to reduce the postage to the present Cheapest Rates. The best price given for collections. Approval sheets on stamps gratis. 800 stamps, all different, 2s. Approval sheets, 50 per cent. PALMER, 221, Strand, London. My only address.

TYPE WRITING AND SHORTHAND. Every description of English and FOREIGN WORK. 1,000 words per hour. Circulars, Dictation to Typists or Shorthand Writers. Special terms for Authors' MSS. Testimonials from eminent reported. Telephone 3,063. Miss Ashworth, The Westminster Type-writing Offices, 59, Victoria-st. S.W.

WASHING.—MRS. MARTIN, Park House Laundry, Kilburn, London, Queen's Park, W., wishes for First-class Washing. This Laundry is under the highest family work. References to titled families. Lowest prices possible, consistent with best work. Linen collected and delivered daily.

WASHING WANTED by well established good laundress; has every convenience; thoroughly understands getting up fine linen; terms moderate. Apply 1, Cambridge-terrace, Kew Bridge-road, Acton.

BOVRIL

Gained the GOLD MEDAL (only award in its class) at the International Food and Cookery Exhibition, London, 1889.

IS NUTRITIOUS, DELICIOUS, AND PERFECTLY PURE.
IS INVALUABLE TO TRAVELLERS AND INDISPENSABLE IN THE HOUSEHOLD.
WILL KEEP ANY LENGTH OF TIME, AND IS INSTANTLY PREPARED.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—An Eminent PUBLIC ANALYST is retained as Consulting Chemist, and nothing enters or leaves the Factory without being examined and tested by him, thus guaranteeing the Absolute Purity of

BOVRIL.

£100 Prize is offered by the Proprietors of BOVRIL for the solution of a new and interesting Puzzle, price 3d., or posted to any address in the U.K. on receipt of 4d. in postage stamps.
Chief Offices, 30, Farringdon-street, E.C.

NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF ENGLAND (LIMITED).
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the RATE of INTEREST allowed by this Bank, at its Head Office, Bishopsgate-street, at St. James's, Marylebone, Islington, Lincoln's-inn, South Kensington, Mayfair, and St. Martin's-le-Grand Branches, is this day REDUCED to THREE PER CENT. per annum.
By order of the Board,
T. G. ROBINSON, F. CHURCHYARD, W. FIDGEON, } Joint General Managers.
112, Bishopsgate-street, London, Mar. 6, 1890.

LONDON AND WESTMINSTER BANK (LIMITED).
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the RATE of INTEREST allowed to Depositors in this Bank is this day REDUCED to the following rates, viz.: On sums of £500 and upwards at seven days' notice, THREE PER CENT.; on sums of £500 and upwards at Call, TWO AND A HALF PER CENT.; and on sums under £500, TWO AND A HALF PER CENT., until further notice.
The Bank reserves to itself at all times the right to decline deposits.
March 6, 1890. W. ASTLE, Manager.

THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK (LIMITED).
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the RATE of INTEREST allowed at the Head Office and Branches of this Bank on Deposits subject to seven days' notice of Withdrawal is this day REDUCED to THREE PER CENT. per annum.
W. F. NARRAWAY, General Manager.
5, Princes-street, Mansion House, March 6, 1890.

UNION BANK OF LONDON (LIMITED).
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the RATE of INTEREST on all DEPOSITS with this Bank repayable on seven days' notice (except those held at lower rates by special arrangement) will be THREE PER CENT. from this date until further notice, which will be given by advertisement only.
Mar. 6, 1890. G. A. TUCKER, Town Manager.

THE IMPERIAL BANK (LIMITED).
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the RATE of INTEREST allowed to depositors at seven days' notice of withdrawal will be THREE PER CENT. until further notice.
ALFRED BROWN, Manager.
No. 6, Lothbury, March 6, 1890.

THE ALLIANCE BANK (LIMITED).
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the RATE of INTEREST allowed by this Bank, at the HEAD OFFICE and BRANCHES, on Deposits at seven days' call will be THREE PER CENT. per annum until further notice.
H. C. O. YEATS, General Manager.
Bartholomew-lane, E.C., March 6, 1890.

THE CITY BANK (LIMITED).
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the present RATE of INTEREST on Deposits with this Bank subject to seven days' notice is THREE PER CENT. per annum.
ALFRED GEORGE KENNEDY, Manager.
Threadneedle-street.

LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY (LIMITED).
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at the Head Office and Branches the RATE of INTEREST allowed on deposits subject to seven days' notice before withdrawal is this day REDUCED to THREE PER CENT. per annum.
W. HOWARD, J. GRAY, J. E. JAMES, } Joint General Managers.
No. 21, Lombard-street, March 6, 1890.

THE CENTRAL BANK OF LONDON (LIMITED).
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the RATE of INTEREST allowed on Deposits at seven days' call is this day REDUCED to THREE PER CENT. per annum.
H. J. LATTER, General Manager.
No. 62, Cornhill, March 6, 1890.

THE CAPITAL AND COUNTIES BANK (LIMITED).
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the RATE of INTEREST allowed by this Bank, at its Head Office, 29, Threadneedle-street, and at the Metropolitan Branches, 25, Ludgate-hill; 125, Oxford-street; 188, Edgware-road; 28, King-street, W.C.; 50, Upper-street, Islington; 47 and 49, Newington-butts; and 35, Piccadilly, is this day REDUCED to THREE PER CENT. for money placed on deposit.
A. YOUNG, General Manager.
No. 29, Threadneedle-street, E.C.
March 6, 1890.

LLOYDS BANK (LIMITED).
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the RATE of INTEREST allowed on Deposits at this Office will be THREE PER CENT. per annum from this date until further notice.
March 6, 1890. J. T. HORLEY, Manager.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND (LIMITED).
Incorporated by Royal Charter and Act of Parliament.
London Office: NICHOLAS-LANE, LOMBARD-STREET.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the RATE of INTEREST allowed by the London Office of the National Bank of Scotland (Limited) at this Office will be THREE PER CENT. from this date until further notice.
JAMES ROBERTSON, Manager in London.
March 6, 1890.

THE UNION BANK of SCOTLAND (LIMITED).—NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the RATE of INTEREST allowed on Deposits with the Union Bank of Scotland (Limited) at this Office will be THREE PER CENT. per annum from this date until further notice.
J. A. FRADELEY, Manager.
London Office, 62, Cornhill, E.C.,
March 6, 1890.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY
(LIMITED),
Holborn Bars, London.

Extracts from the FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT. *For the year ending 31st December, 1889.*

ORDINARY BRANCH.—The number of Policies issued during the year was 43,792, assuring the sum of £4,433,334, and producing a New Annual Premium Income of £253,463.
The Premiums received during the year were £904,913, being an increase of £126,067 over the year 1888.
The Claims of the year amounted to £213,262. The number of Policies in force was 177,208.
INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.—The Premiums received during the year were £5,556,702.
The Claims of the year amounted to £1,285,409. The number of Deaths was 150,557.
The number of Policies in force was 3,518,619: the average duration continues to increase, and now exceeds six and a quarter years.
The total Assets of the Company have been raised during the year from £9,302,007 to £10,946,156, being an increase of £1,644,149.
The large and rapidly increasing amount of the Funds of the Company has led the Directors to the determination that in future the Balance Sheet shall be subjected to an independent professional audit. For this purpose they engaged the services of Messrs. DELOITTE, DEVER, GRIFFITHS, and Co., whose certificate is appended to the Accounts.

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET OF THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED), ON THE 31st DECEMBER, 1889.

LIABILITIES.	£	s.	d.
Shareholders' Capital	200,000	0	0
Ordinary Branch Fund	3,591,386	19	0
Industrial Branch Fund	7,149,296	16	9
Claims under Life Policies admitted	15,562	3	0
	£10,956,156	3	9

ASSETS.	£	s.	d.
British Government Securities (Consols)	1,237,327	18	9
Railway and other Debentures	1,662,365	2	6
Loans on Municipal and other Rates	2,186,330	4	4
Freehold Ground Rents and Scotch Feu Duties	1,399,125	4	2
Mortgages	1,163,138	14	6
Metropolitan Board of Works Stock and City of London Bonds	160,568	10	0
Bank of England Stock	143,726	12	1
Freehold and Leasehold Property	785,953	9	9
Indian, Colonial, and Foreign Government Securities	669,292	18	0
Reversions	127,446	5	4
Railway and other Shares	166,022	10	9
Loans on the Company's Policies	65,324	15	0
Furniture and Fittings	16,500	0	0
Loans upon Personal Securities	702	10	0
Outstanding Premiums	293,279	15	5
Cash in hands of Superintendents and Agents' Balances	50,178	6	10
Outstanding Interest and Rents	33,433	3	9
Cash—On deposit, on current accounts, and in hand	239,107	11	8
	£10,946,156	3	9

THOS. C. DEWEY, WILLIAM HUGHES, } *Managers.*
W. J. LANCASTER, *Secretary.*

We have examined the Cash Balances, Receipts and Payments, affecting the accounts of the Assets and Investments for the year ended December 31, 1889, and we find the same in good order and properly vouched. We have also examined the Deeds and Securities, Certificates, &c., representing the Assets and Investments set out in the above account, and we certify that they were in possession and safe custody as on December 31st, 1889.

19th February, 1890.

EDGAR HORNE, *Chairman.*
H. A. HARBEN, ROBERT BARNES, } *Directors.*
DELOITTE, DEVER, GRIFFITHS, and Co.

The LIST will be OPENED on MONDAY, 10th instant, and CLOSED on or before WEDNESDAY, the 12th instant.

MEXICAN GOVERNMENT SIX PER CENT. (Silver Currency) BONDS (Monterrey and Mexican Gulf Railway).
ISSUE of 2,500,000 dols., being part of a total issue of 6,700,000 dols. Contract ratified by Decree of Congress, dated 10th November, 1888, and 3rd June, 1889.
Interest payable half-yearly on the 1st December and 30th June. Principal payable at par in silver currency in Forty Years, but redeemable wholly or partially at the option of the Government after the expiration of Ten Years.
Interest on the Bonds will run from the 1st day of July, 1890. Interest to that date will also be paid on the instalments from the date of allotment by coupon for this will accompany each Provisional Certificate.
The HOME and COLONIAL ASSETS and DEBENTURE CORPORATION (Limited) offer for Sale by Subscription the above Bonds at the price of 65 per cent. or £130 per Bond of 1,000 dols., payable as follows:—

5 per cent.,	£10 on Application,	
15	£30	on Allotment.
15	£30	on April 8.
20	£40	on May 6.
10	£20	on June 4.
65	£130	

Payment in full may be made on allotment under discount at the rate of £4 per cent. per annum.
The subscription will be quoted simultaneously in Amsterdam.

This Loan consists of Bonds which are a direct obligation of the Government of Mexico, and are issued as a subsidy in aid of the construction and equipment of the line of Railway, with a telegraph to be returned in the future, from the town of Monterey, in the State of Coahuila, on the line of the Mexican International Railway, through the City of Monterey in the State of Nuevo Leon to the City of Tampico in the State of Tamaulipas on the Gulf of Mexico, a distance in all about 200 miles.
According to the report of Mr. W. Barclay Parsons, C.E., New York, the central portions of the two last-mentioned States being entirely without railway connections, a practical monopoly will be secured of an important and populous territory.
The Concessions are for a term of 50 years, and were approved by Decree of the Government of the United States of Mexico on the 10th of November, 1887, revised on the 15th August, 1888, and by a Decree dated 3rd June, 1889, all of which were consolidated by a Decree dated 20th September, 1889.
One hundred and thirty miles of railway have already been constructed; ninety-two miles are in operation, and it is anticipated that the entire line will be completed within one-and-a-half years.
The Government has undertaken to give a subsidy of 8,000 dols. for each kilometre of line constructed and approved by the Secretary of Public Works, or about 14,320 dols. Bonds for only 1,300,000 dols. have been already earned, and Certificates for 1,850,000 dols. have been issued.
Subsidy is secured by Government Bonds for 1,000 dols. each, bearing interest at the rate of 6 per cent. (silver currency) per annum, payable half-yearly, inasmuch as the Concession gives the right to build in all about 460 miles, the issue will not exceed 6,700,000 dols. The Bonds, which will be issued in series, are payable in forty years, and are redeemable wholly or partially after ten years at par in silver currency, at the option of the Government.
The interest on the present issue of Mexican silver dollar coupons, and calculating the redemption at one-half per cent., will yield about seven and one-half per cent. interest per annum.
Copies of the Decree of the Government of the 10th of November, 1887, and 3rd of June, 1889, and of the Concession annexed thereto, and of the Consolidating Decree of the 20th of September, 1889, as well as a Specimen Bond, can be inspected at the offices of Messrs. Trehearne and Lousada, Solicitors, 17, Old Broad-street, E.C.
Provisional Certificates to Bearer will be issued and exchanged for Allotment Letters, and will again exchanged for the Bonds when ready on payment in full.
If the whole amount applied for by any applicant be not allotted, the surplus amount paid on application will be appropriated towards the sum due to allotment. Where no allotment is made the deposit will be returned in full. Failure to pay any instalment when due renders all previous payments liable to forfeiture.
Prospectuses and Forms of Application may be obtained from The Home and Colonial Assets and Debenture Corporation (Limited), 34, Old Broadstreet, London, E.C., and 64, Queen-street, Edinburgh, to whom all applications for Bonds should be addressed and payments made.
London, March 7, 1890.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR MEXICAN GOVERNMENT SIX PER CENT. (silver currency) BONDS.
(Monterrey and Mexican Gulf Railway).
To The Home and Colonial Assets and Debenture Corporation (Limited).
request that you will allot
to me/us £ say
pounds nominal Capital of the above Bonds on which I/we enclose the requisite deposit of £ and agree to accept that amount or any less sum that may be allotted to me/us, and to pay the balance of allotment and the instalments due according to the conditions of your Prospectus dated London, March 7th, 1890.
Signature.....
Name in full.....
Address.....
Date.....

NATIONAL DISCOUNT COMPANY (LIMITED).
Subscribed Capital £4,333,326
Paid-up 216,666
Reserve Fund 60,000
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the RATES of INTEREST allowed for Deposits are REDUCED as follows:—viz. to
THREE PER CENT. per annum at Call.
THREE AND A QUARTER PER CENT. at Seven and Fourteen Days' Notice.
WILLIAM HANCOCK, Manager.
CHARLES H. HUTCHINS, Sub-Manager.
No. 35, Cornhill, E.C., March 6, 1890.

LONDON LIFE ASSOCIATION.
Established 1806.
ASSURANCE FUND FOUR MILLIONS.
Mutual Assurance at Least Cost.
81, KING WILLIAM STREET, E.C.

INSTITUTED A.D. 1696.
HAND-IN-HAND INSURANCE SOCIETY.
(MUTUAL, both FIRE and LIFE.)
LIFE.—Profits divided Annually.
FIRE.—Quinquennially or Septennially.
Bonuses Large. Expenses Moderate. No Personal Liability.
ANNUAL INCOME, £312,500.
ACCUMULATED FUNDS, £2,262,265.
No. 26, New Bridge-street, E.C.

DEATH AND DISABLEMENT BY ACCIDENT.
THE RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY assures £1,000 at death and full benefits at £4 per annum.
Hon. EVELYN ASHLEY, Chairman.
ANNUAL INCOME, £330,000.
60,000 Annual Policyholders.
INVESTED CAPITAL AND RESERVE FUND, £325,000.
COMPENSATION PAID, £2,750,000.
West-End Office:—8, Grand Hotel-buildings, W.C.
Head Office: 64, Cornhill, London, E.C.
WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

Established 1858.
THE LIBERATOR BUILDING SOCIETY.
Budge-row, Cannon-street, London, E.C.
Reserve Fund £285,000
FIVE PER CENT. PAID ON SHARES (£30 each), and on deposits of £500 and upwards made for fixed terms.
DEPOSITS of £3 and upwards at ONE MONTH'S NOTICE, FOUR PER CENT.
For particulars apply to the Secretary,
THOMAS H. ROCKE.

MONARCH INVESTMENT BUILDING SOCIETY. Established 1867.
Total advances made exceed £1,305,685.
DEPOSITS received at 3½ and 4 per cent., subject to arrangement as to withdrawal.
DIVIDENDS paid half-yearly through the post.
For forms of application apply to
W. H. MATHEWS, Secretary.
Offices: 23, Finsbury-circus, E.C.

HOUSES, Furnished and Unfurnished, and all descriptions of business premises, to be let or sold in London and country; valuable selections of building land also on hand. Particulars free, of H. C. HALLIDAY, Land and Estate Agent, 65 and 66, Chancery-lane, W.C., and Hendon.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.
WHY TRAVEL WITHOUT AN
INSURANCE TICKET?
ISSUED AT ALL STATIONS.

Accidents of all kinds
INSURED AGAINST BY THE
RAILWAY PASSENGERS ASSURANCE CO.
64, Cornhill, E.C.
W. J. VIAN, Secretary.

THE
PALL MALL BUDGET
Of THURSDAY, March 6,
CONTAINS:

A PORTRAIT OF MR. GEORGE LEWIS IN HIS WORK-ROOM AT ELY PLACE.

HOW GIRLS ARE TAUGHT TO FENCE. (Illustrated.)

A SKETCH OF LORD CHARLES BERESFORD IN HIS CABIN ON H.M.S. "UNDAUNTED."

SKETCHES ON THE "UNDAUNTED."

THE PIANOS OF SOME GREAT MEN. (Illustrated.)

AT THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM. (Illustrated.)

DOWN A SALT PIT. (Illustrated.)

HORSE SHOES: OLD AND NEW. (Illustrated.)

PRICE FOURPENCE. Post free FOURPENCE-HALFPENNY.
MAY BE OBTAINED OF ALL NEWSAGENTS AND AT ALL RAILWAY BOOKSTALLS.
Offices: 2, NORTHUMBERLAND-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Immediate and Unreserved SALE OF OLD BOTTLED WINES, Duty-paid, on WEDNESDAY, the 12th instant.
MESSRS. W. AND T. RESTELL, Sworn Brokers, of 29, Mark-lane, E.C., will SELL by PUBLIC AUCTION, at the London COMMERCIAL SALE ROOMS, MINCING-LANE, on WEDNESDAY, March 12, 1890, commencing at One o'clock precisely, Valuable Stocks of WINES without reserve, viz.:
1,053 dozens PORT, shipped by Cockburn, Martinez, G. G. Sandeman, Croft, Dow, Forrester, Nephew, Offley, Smith Woodhouse, Goldesmith and Dickens, Ferreira, Gould Campbell, and Krohn, and including a few lots of the Vintages 1877, 1870, 1851, 1863, 1881, and 1884.
1,139 dozens CLARET—Château Haut Brion, 1869; Château Larose, 1878; Château Palmer, 1880; Fronsac, 1881; Listrac, 1880; St. Christoly, Pabis St. Julien, St. Estèphe, Rio Medoc Blanc, Graves 1881, and Pomac 1884.
451 dozens CHAMPAGNE—Pommery and Greno's 1874, Extra Sec and Brut; Giesler's 1884, Extra Superior Dry; Delbeck's 1884, Extra Reserve; Beaucham's 1884, Crème de Luxe and Extra Quality; and Bollinger's 1880-1881.
381 dozens BURGUNDY — Corton, Volnay, Nuits, Mercurey, Moulin-à-Vent, Beaune, Macon, and St. George's.
192 dozens SHERRY—Including Shipments of Misa's and Mora and Martinez.
163 dozens CHABLIS.
122 dozens HOCK and MOSELLE—Principally Shipped by A. Jordan.
17 dozens PALE BRANDY — Convoisier's—Imported in 1879.

4,423 doz.
Catalogues and Samples may be obtained on application to the Auctioneers, W. and T. RESTELL, 29, MARK-LANE, LONDON, E.C.

THE KENNEL CLUB'S THIRTY-FOURTH EXHIBITION of SPORTING and other DOGS.
Over £2,000 in Prizes. Will be held at the AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON, LONDON, N., on April 15, 16, 17, 18.
239 Classes provided. Schedules and Entry Forms now ready, for which apply to W. W. ASTHALL, Secretary, 6, Cleveland-row, St. James's, London, S.W. Entries should be made by the 15th of March.

THE EARLSWOOD ASYLUM for IDIOTS and IMBECILES, Redhill, Surrey.
The ANNUAL DINNER of this Charity will be held on WEDNESDAY, March 12, 1890, at the Hôtel Métropole, Whitehall-place, W.C.
ALFRED L. COHEN, Esq., in the Chair, supported by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs.
There are now over 600 inmates in the Asylum.
CONTRIBUTIONS are urgently REQUIRED to Defray the Current Expenses, and towards the Deficiency of £2,000, the usual average annual income.
BANKERS.—Messrs. Hoare, 37, Fleet-street, E.C.
H. GERARD HOARE, Esq., Treasurer.
JAMES DOWNING, Secretary.
Offices, 35, King William-street, London, E.C.

SPANISH.—Proficiency in correspondence and conversation guaranteed by experienced native teacher. Terms moderate. A gentleman could be received at teacher's residence, 10s. 6d. Tuition gratis.—"MADRILENO," 15, Dunsville-road, Denmark-hill.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the PHŒNIX FIRE OFFICE, 19, LOMBARD STREET, E.C., AND 57, CHARING CROSS, S.W., will be held at the Offices, 19, Lombard-street, E.C., on THURSDAY, the 13th day of March, 1890, at Two o'clock precisely, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors, declaring a Dividend, and electing Directors and Auditors.
By order of the Board,
CHARLES ROSSE BROWNE, Secretary.
Lombard-street, March 7, 1890.

WESTMINSTER FIRE OFFICE
27, KING-STREET, COVENT-GARDEN.
Founded A.D. 1717. Losses promptly settled.
Insurances arranged by Telephone No. 3,502.
CHARLES ROSSE BROWNE, Secretary.

REVERSIONS AND LIFE INTERESTS is LANDED or FUNDED PROPERTY or other securities and annuities PURCHASED, or loans or annuities thereon granted by the EQUITABLE REVERSIONARY INTEREST SOCIETY (LIMITED), 10, LANCASTER-PLACE, WATERLOO-BRIDGE, STRAND. Established 1835. Capital, £500,000. Interest on Loans may be capitalized.
F. S. CLAYTON } Joint
C. H. CLAYTON } Secretaries.

Printed and Published by THOMAS HUNT, at the Office, 2, Northumberland-street, Strand, in the Parish of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.—FRIDAY, March 7, 1890.